In this issue…

Apples & Honey Celebration at JCC

Page 3

Tel Aviv's "White City"

Page 18

Year in Review 5769

Page 26

Washtenaw Jewish News
c/o Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor
2939 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage PAID
Ann Arbor, MI
Permit No. 85

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

September 2009 Elul 5769/Tishrei 5770 Volume XXXIV: Number 1 FREE

Florence Melton Adult Mini-School of ers Jewish study

Julie Gales, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will offer The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School once again this September. Melton is a program of Jewish study initiated by philanthropist Florence Melton in 1986 in cooperation with The Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The Mini-School is sponsored by the JCC and made possible through funding by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor and the Covenant Foundation as well as a consortium of community congregations and organizations.

The Melton Mini-School offers a rigorous but accessible two-year text-based course of Jewish study. The classes are taught with a pluralistic approach that draws upon the best scholarship from all movements of Judaism. Jews of all levels of knowledge and observance are welcome.

Each year the Melton curriculum is comprised of two courses. During the first year of study, students take "Rhythms of Jewish Life and Purposes of Jewish Life". The "Rhythms" class addresses the daily, weekly, and yearly lifecycle/holiday cycle of the Jews. Using texts (ancient and modern) as the basis for learning, the class looks at what they know and what they don't know or assume about holidays and lifecycles. They learn when traditions change and how different groups of Jews interpret things. "The Purposes of Jewish Living" class looks at what Jews believe—the concepts that have defined the Jewish people. Again, using texts as the basis for discussion, some of the topics that this class covers are creation, the concept of a chosen people, *mitzvot*, and women in Judaism (ancient views and modern views of women) among other topics.

Florence Melton Adult Mini School 2008

The second year courses are "Ethics of Jewish Living" and "Dramas of Jewish Life" The ethics course explores ethical issues including, but not limited to, social justice, end-of-life issues, sexuality, donating organs, marriage, divorce, honoring our parents, community vs. individual issues, equity and justice, and personal virtue. Students examine these issues through Talmudic, rabbinic, and contemporary texts and literature. "Dramas of Jewish Life" explores dramatic developments, experiences and issues from different periods in Jewish history, as reflected in historical texts and modern interpretations.

What makes the Melton Mini-School unique?

continued on page 5

YAD sets aside time to rediscover Shabbat

Laura Berger, special to the WJN

Each summer, the Jewish Federation's Young Adult Division (YAD) sets aside one night for a unique Shabbat experience. Over 150 people are expected to gather at Burns Park, blankets in hand, for a laid back night with Shabbat songs and a catered picnic dinner. Children of all ages will enjoy the playground, as well as tried-and-true musical Shabbat favorites.

The event, which will take place this year on Friday, September 11, from 6–8 p.m., is particularly aimed at welcoming newcomers to the Ann Arbor area. The host committee for the event will make an extra effort to invite people who are either new to Ann Arbor this fall or have never attended a YAD event. As a special welcome to the YAD community, all first-time attendees will be admitted free of charge. Shabbat in the Park is perfect for singles, couples, and families with children of all ages.

The cost of the event includes a kosher BBQ-style dinner by Chef Cari Kosher Catering, with hamburgers, hot dogs, and an array of salads (vegetarian options are available).

Plan to join in now and save money. Advance registration is $10 per adult and $8 per child over the age of 3. At the door, the cost will be $12 per adult and $10 per child.

RSVP for this event by calling Laura Berger at the Jewish Federation, 677-0100 or register online at www.jewishannarbor.org.

TBE spearheads Food Gatherers drive

Rabbi Lisa Delson, special to the WJN

This summer the Ann Arbor community heeded the call to help out. On August 6, staff at Temple Beth Emeth heard that Food Gatherers was out of food. "We've [Food Gatherers] usually been able to stretch the non-perishable food supplies collected in the Spring… up in late September, but despite collecting about the same amount as in past years, we ran out in the first week of July. We need more food." Immediately, Temple Beth Emeth joined in to help and received the support of St. Clare's Episcopal Church, Beth Israel Congregation and other individual companies and offices to collect food.

In four days the TBE social hall was filled with over 6,000 pounds of food. Throughout the week many congregants from TBE, BIC, and St. Clares stopped by to drop off bags of food to be used at Food Gatherers and TBE's Back Door Food Pantry. One immense contribution came from the employees of Dykema, where TBE member, Ronnie Shapiro, works. After hearing about the shortage, she sent a message to the rest of the office staff. Within a week they raised over $700, buying $400 worth of food and donating the remaining $300 to the cause.

Despite this incredible effort, the food shortage is not completely eradicated—food pantries rely on the public's support. Food Gatherers and the Back Door Food Pantry always welcome donations. ■

Services for the High Holidays

ROSH HASHANAH	9/18	9/19	Tashlich	9/20
Beth Israel Congregation	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	5 p.m.	8 a.m.
Family Celebration	4 p.m.			11:15 a.m.
Youth Programs		10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.
Mincha		7:30 p.m.		5 p.m.
Ma'ariv	.	7:30 p.m.		7:40 p.m.
Chabad House	7:30 p.m	9:45 a.m.	4 p.m.	9:45 a.m.
		7:30 p.m.		7:30 p.m.
Hillel			4:30 p.m.	
Conservative	7:15 p.m.	9:30 a.m./7:30 p.m.		9:30 a.m
Orthodox (AAOM)	7:15 p.m.	9:00 a.m./7:15 p.m.		9am/7:15 p.m.
Reform	7 p.m.	10 a.m.		
Jewish Cultural Society	7 p.m.		noon	
Pardes Hannah		9:30 a.m.	1 p.m.	10 a.m.
Reconstructionist Havurah	7:30 p.m.	9 a.m.	3:30 p.m.	
Temple Beth Emeth	8 p.m.		1:30 p.m.	
Family Service		9 a.m.		
Traditional & AARTY		11 a.m.		
Pre-reader		2:30 p.m.		

YOM KIPPUR	9/27	9/28	BREAK-THE-FAST
Beth Israel Congregation	6:55 p.m.	8 a.m.	8:05 p.m.
Youth	6:55 p.m.	10:30 a.m.	
Study Session		4:15 p.m.	
Mincha,		5:15 p.m.	
Neilah		6:45 p.m.	
Chabad House	7 p.m.	9:45 a.m.	
		5:30 p.m.	
Hillel			8:15 p.m.
Conservative	7: p.m.	9:30 a.m./5:45 p.m.	
Orthodox (AAOM)	7: p.m.	9 a.m./6:50 p.m.	
Reform	7: p.m.	10 a.m.	7 p.m.
Jewish Cultural Society	7 p.m.	2 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
Pardes Hannah	6:10 p.m	9:30 a.m.	
		8:00 p.m.	Following 8:00 p.m. service
Reconstructionist Havurah	7:15 p.m.	10 a.m.	8 pm
Adult Study		2:45 p.m.	
Neliah		6:45 p.m.	
Temple Beth Emeth	8 p.m.		
AARTY	8 p.m.		
Family Service		9 a.m.	
Traditional		11 a.m.	
Adult Study		2:30 p.m.	
Personal Renewal Service		2:30 p.m.	
Afternoon Service		3:30 p.m.	
Yizkor & Neilah		5:30 p.m.	Following 5:30 p.m. service

In this issue…

Advertisers 35
Calendar 30
Congregations 10
Federation 8
Israel 17
JCC News 5
Kosher Cuisine 29
On Another Note 28
Seniors 6
Teens 16
Vitals 35
Women 4
Washington D.C. 21
World Jewry 20
Year in Review 26
Youth 13

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

2935 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
voice: 734/971-1800
fax: 734/971-1801
e-mail: wjn.editor@gmail.com
www.washtenawjewishnews.org

Editor and Publisher
Susan Kravitz Ayer

Calendar Editor
Claire Sandler

Advertising Manager
Gordon White

Design and Layout
Dennis Platte

Staff Writers
David Erik Nelson, Sandor Slomovits

Contributing Writers
Sally Abbey, Halye Aisner, Toby Axelrod, Laura Berger, Margi Brawer, Rabbi Lisa Delson, Emily Eisbruch, Annette Fisch, Eric Fingerhut, Eileen Freed, Julie Gales, Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, Roger Green, Noa Gutterman, Deborah Huerta, Ron Kampeas, Alicia Kent, Dina Kraft, Chana Kroll, Jeffrey Lazor, Jim Leija, Joan Levitt, Linda Morel, Susannah Perlman, Merrill Poliner, Dorrie Rosenblatt, Mae Sander, Allison Sheren, David Shtulman, Elliot Sorkin, Rachel Tepper, Carrie Fried Thorpe

Mailing Committee
Ruth Ankiewicz, Beverly Bixler, Ruth Breslaw, Ethel Ellis, Steve Fishman, Esther Goldman, Fran Goldman, Betty Hammond, Jayne Harary, Evelyn Horwitz, Doris Jamron, Marilyn Krimm, Lily Ladin, Doris Miller, Bob and Sophie Mordis, Irwin Pollack, Lotte Rosenbaum, Esther Rubin, Sol Saginaw, Sarah Shoem, Nell Stern

Special thanks
To Ethel Ellis and Betty Hammond

The Washtenaw Jewish News is a free and independent newspaper. It is published monthly, with the exception of January and July. It is registered as a Non-profit Michigan Corporation. Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of its editors or staff

Member of
American Jewish Press Association

©2009 by the *Washtenaw Jewish News*.
All rights reserved. No portion of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* may be reproduced without permission of the publisher.

Signed letters to the editor are welcome; they should not exceed 400 words. Letters can be emailed to the editor at wjn.editor@gmail.com. Name will be withheld at the discretion of the editor.

Circulation: 5,000
Subscriptions:
$12 bulk rate inside Washtenaw County
$18 first-class subscription

The deadline for the October, 2009 issue of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* is Wednesday, September 9.
Publication date: September 25.
Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* are available at locations throughout Washtenaw County.

Violinist Itzhak Perlman returns to UMS

Jim Leija, special to the WJN

The University Musical Society (UMS) will launch its 09/10 season with a recital by the world's reigning violin virtuoso, Itzhak Perlman, who will perform alongside pianist Rohan De Silva on Sunday, September 13, at 4 p.m. in Ann Arbor's Hill Auditorium (825 North University Avenue).

Born in Israel and introduced to the American public as a teenager through an appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show, Itzhak Perlman enjoys a superstar status rarely afforded a classical musician. A recipient of both the National Medal of Arts and the Kennedy Center Honors, Perlman was selected to perform at the inauguration of President Barack Obama. He returns for his first UMS recital since 2000.

Born in Israel in 1945, Itzhak Perlman completed his initial training at the Academy of Music in Tel Aviv. He came to New York and was soon propelled into the international arena with an appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show in 1958. Following his studies at The Juilliard School with Ivan Galamian and Dorothy DeLay, Perlman won the prestigious Leventritt Competition in 1964, which led to a burgeoning worldwide career. Since then, Perlman has appeared with every major orchestra and in recitals and festivals around the world.

A recipient of numerous awards, Perlman was honored with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008. His recordings regularly appear on the best-seller charts and have garnered 15 Grammy Awards in total. His most recent releases include an all-Mozart recording

Itzhak Perlman

with the Berlin Philharmonic (in which he is both soloist and conductor), and a recording for Deutsche Grammophon, conducting the Israel Philharmonic. Perlman has taught full time at the Perlman Music Program each summer since it was founded in 1993 and currently holds the Dorothy Richard Starling Foundation Chair at The Juilliard School.

Rohan De Silva, a native of Sri Lanka, began his piano studies with his mother, the late Primrose De Silva, and the late Mary Billimoria. He spent six years at the Royal Academy of Music in London as a student of Hamish Milne, Sydney Griller, and Wilfred Parry. De Silva was the first recipient of a special scholarship in the arts from the President's Fund of Sri Lanka. This enabled him to enter The Juilliard School, where he received both his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees, studying piano with Martin Canin, chamber music with Felix Galimir, and working closely with violin pedagogue Dorothy DeLay.

Mr. De Silva performs frequently with Itzhak Perlman and was seen with Perlman on PBS's Live from Lincoln Center broadcast in January 2000. De Silva is currently a faculty member in collaborative arts and chamber music at the Juilliard School.

For tickets or additional information, contact the University Musical Society at 764-2538 or online at www.ums.org. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the League Ticket Office (911 North University Avenue). UMS Ticket Office hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., closed Sunday.

This is a Classical Kids Club concert. Designed to nurture and create the next generation of musicians and music lovers, the Classical Kids Club allows parents to purchase up to two tickets for $10 each for students in grades 1-9 with the purchase of a $20 adult ticket. Seating is subject to availability. UMS will reserve a limited number of Classical Kids Club tickets for each eligible performance. Tickets will be available two weeks before the concert at the League Ticket Office or by phone. Children must be present when picking up tickets. ■

Annual fall holiday celebration set for September 13

Margi Brawer, special to the WJN

Apples & Honey, an annual family event that celebrates the Jewish fall holidays, will take place on Sunday, September 13 from noon-3 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Chairing the event this year is Carrie Bank. Everyone is invited free of charge.

Participants will be able to taste apples and honey, symbolic of the new year. There will be many children's activities including bouncers, train rides, games, shofar blowing and arts and crafts. Clowns and jugglers will entertain guests while face-painting and making balloon animals. Israeli food, kosher baked goods and lunch will be available for purchase along with gifts and Judaica items.

This program brings together many local Jewish organizations to provide information about their purpose and to educate participants about the upcoming holidays—Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year; Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement; and Sukkot, the fall harvest festival.

Reservations are required. For more information on sponsoring a table or to register for Apples & Honey, call 971-0990 or email hayleaisner@jccfed.org. ■

JCC to welcome newcomers at Apples & Honey

Newcomers to the Ann Arbor area and new members of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor are invited to visit the Newcomers' Booth at Apples & Honey on September 13 from noon-3 p.m.

The Newcomers' Booth will offer information about Ann Arbor and the Ann Arbor Jewish community, gifts, coupons and a chance to meet others who have recently moved to the area. Members of the JCC and the Jewish Federation boards as well as members from all other Jewish organizations will be welcoming newcomers.

JCC says shalom, welcome to new residents

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

Jewish newcomers to Ann Arbor—babies and adults alike—can take advantage of two programs to welcome them to the community: "Shalom Ann Arbor" and "Shalom Baby."

If you're new to Ann Arbor or thinking of moving to the area, the Jewish Community Center's "Shalom Ann Arbor" is here to welcome you to the Jewish community. The "Shalom Ann Arbor" Welcome Package is an essential information packet for newcomers or those considering relocating here. It includes a copy of Jewish Life in Washtenaw County, the most recent edition of Washtenaw Jewish News, information on activities in the Jewish community and more. Volunteers are available to provide a personal welcome and introduction to Ann Arbor's Jewish community for those who have already moved here.

Maybe your family has recently grown or your friends are about to welcome a little one into their lives. "Shalom Baby" welcomes parents, their newborns and newly-adopted children into the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. "Shalom Baby" provides you with a "Welcome to Our World" gift bag full of fun and helpful gifts, information on parenting, Jewish resources for parents and families and support from caring volunteers.

If you are interested in receiving information on the JCC's new Shalom programs, contact Halye Aisner at 971-0990 or halyeaisner@jccfed.org. These programs are a wonderful way for newcomers to meet new people, make new friends and learn about the Jewish community and the resources available.

These programs have been made possible by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor.

Amadeus CAFE • PATISSERIE
Elegant Central European Dining
Pastries • Tortes • Soups • Salads
Traditional Foods & Vegetarian Selections
Candlelight Dinners with Live Classical Music
Wine, Beer, Liqueurs & Special Coffees
122 East Washington Street
(734) 665-8767
Open: T - Th 11:30–3, 5 - 10 • F 11:30 - 3, 5 - 11
Sat. 11:30 - 11 • Special Sunday Brunch 11 - 3

Ayse's CAFE
Turkish Home Cooking
Delicious and Healthy
Dine-in Take-out Catering
Available for Private Parties
Now with Liquor License
(734) 662-1711
ayse@aysescafe.com
1703 Plymouth Rd., Ann Arbor

Don't want it?
Don't need it?
Don't keep it!
Let iSOLD It
The Easy Way to Sell on eBay
sell it for you!
eBay REGISTERED drop off location
Musical Instruments • Designer Items
Antiques & Collectibles • Electronics
Cameras & Audio/Visual Equipment
Sporting Goods • Automotive Parts
Free pick-up & drop-off for BOOKS BY CHANCE
869B W. Eisenhower Pkwy
(in the Colonnade Center)
761-6187

the Village Apothecary
1112 S. University
663-5533
Free Delivery

Beth Israel's Susan Weisberg attends Leadership Institute

Sally Abbey, special to the WJN

Susan Weisberg, coordinator of the Beth Israel Congregation Women's League, recently attended the Women's League Leadership Institute in Northbrook, Illinois, July 26–28. Weisberg was selected as a candidate for the three-day Leadership Institute based on her volunteer experience, her desire to serve her community, and her participation in her Women's League. The international Women's League for Conservative Judaism is the umbrella organization of 600 sisterhoods in the Conservative movement, with a membership of 100,000 worldwide.

Susan Weisberg (center) at Leadership Institute

Together, the 33 women from sisterhoods across the United States, participated in lectures, seminars and study groups that combined acquiring both leadership skills and Jewish knowledge. They studied with Rabbis Vernon Kurtz and Aaron Melman, and educator Barbara Barnett. They defined their own leadership styles in dynamic inter-active workshops and created personalized leadership paths for the future.

The expectation is that those who attend this and future Leadership Institutes will forge a new generation of leaders for the women of the Conservative movement, women who are well prepared and Jewishly knowledgeable.

"The purpose of the Institute," said Cory Schneider, Women's League International president, "is to strengthen the foundation of leadership in the organization as well as to empower Conservative Jewish women to assume active roles in their communities."

Beth Israel Women's League past presidents honored at year-end event, June 14, 2009

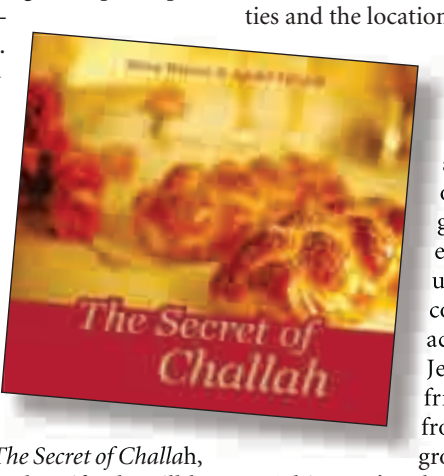
Front row: Judy Cohen, Sherri Peller, Susie Weisberg.
Back row: Yetta Miller,Marilyn Berk, Robin Aronson, Louise Fliegel, Florence Gerber, Martha Young, Linda Bender.
Not pictured: Judy Ahronheim,Barbara August,Debbie Chimovitz,Charlotte Fauman, Yael Ganet, Barbara Herman, Martha Oleinick, Rachel Schreiber

Jewish Women's Circle begins year's activities

Mae Sander, special to the WJN

"Beyond the Braid: Why Challah is More than Just Bread," is to be the theme of the first meeting of the Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County. The meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, at 7:30 p.m.

For this initial meeting, each participant is asked to bring a favorite challah recipe. A hands-on demonstration will illustrate mixing, kneading, and braiding a challah. In additon to learning to bake challah, the evening offers the opportunity to meet and socialize with the other circle members. Each participant will take home a small loaf.



Copies of the book *The Secret of Challa*h, by Shira Wiener and Ayelet Yifrach, will be available for participants to look over during the meeting. Ideas from the book—including over 30 recipes, many braiding techniques, and historical and religious background material—will supplement the presentation and demonstration. It can be ordered from local bookstores or at amazon.com by those who want their own copy. Registration is required because of space limitations. Contacts Esther Goldstein at 995-3276 or Mimi Weisberg at mimi.weisberg@gmail.com to reserve.

The Jewish Women's Circle began a year ago. The group has held seven meetings to date and was organized by Esther Goldstein, Mimi Weisberg, and others. All women are welcome to attend any meeting that interests them, regardless of affiliation or non-affiliation. Organizers maintain a Facebook page, entries on community calendars, and an email list to inform participants of activities and the location of each meeting.

Meetings among women are traditional in Jewish communities. Organizer Esther Goldstein explains, "The circle of friendship can always get bigger, and never ends. Women gather with us for companionship, conversation, and simple activities associated with Jewish themes. Several friendships have resulted from participation in our group."

This year's schedule begins with three meetings linked to three women's mitzvot: challah making (September 14); the rituals and meaning of the mikvah (ritual bath), which has recently been enjoying a rebirth of interest (October 26); and candle-making, linked to the mitzvah of lighting candles (December 7). Locations and other details will be announced.

In the winter and spring of 2010, further meetings will have themes of beading, yoga, scrapbooking, and genealogy. Attendees pay $10 per meeting to defray expenses, and a member can opt to become a sponsor for annual dues of $54.

"Sangria under the Sukkah" is ORT opening event

Joan Levitt, special to the WJN

The Ann Arbor chapter of ORT America will host its Fall Event on Wednesday, October 7, from 7–9 p.m. a the home of Judy Cohen, who has graciously offered her backyard and sukkah for this event.

The menu of tapas (small plates of delectable treats) will be prepared by ORT members. In keeping with the Spanish theme, there will also be a Sangria-making contest. Attendees are encouraged to bring their favorite sangria recipe and drink to the event for a friendly competition.

The speaker for "Sangria under the Sukkah" will be Patti Aaron, who is actively involved in ORT America at the national level. She will provide up-to-date information about ORT's current programs and needs. This event is also an excellent time to meet old and new friends, buy ORT greeting cards, and learn about the chapter's programs, including the Book Group and Cinema Club.

The Ann Arbor Chapter of ORT America raises money each year to support World ORT's schools and high tech training programs. Annually, over 300,000 students in 62 countries are trained and empowered by ORT's cutting-edge curriculum and strategic education initiatives that help students compete in the rapidly changing market of the 21st century.

ORT members and prospective members are invited to attend this opening event. For more information or to RSVP, contact Eileen Thacker at 302-1810 or at tethacker@yahoo.com.

Hadassah event features "Improv at the Café Tel Aviv"

Annette F. Fisch, special to the WJN

On Thursday, October 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor, the Ann Arbor Chapter of Hadassah will host an evening of entertainment, enlightenment and light refreshments, led by The Impro-Fessionals, an improvisational comedy group at the University of Michigan.

The cost for the program is $10 per person or $18 per pair, and admission is free to new members who join that evening. RSVP by October 5 to Caryn Stairs at carynstairs@charter.net or 424-1701. Checks, made out to Hadassah, should be sent to Caryn Stairs, 6842 Brassow Lane, Dexter, MI 48130. For a ride, contact Hadassah President Barb Bergman at 424-1701 or yoshka1942@aol.com.

The JCC is located at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, 48108. ID is required to enter the JCC.

JCC installs new board and honors outstanding volunteers

Margi Brawer, special to the WJN

Seth Penchansky

A new board of directors was elected at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Brunch on June 7. Architect Seth Penchansky was elected president. As JCC vice-president, Penchansky was actively involved in the renovation of the JCC and promises to make the greening of the JCC a priority. Attorney and Early Childhood Center parent Rachel Nosowsky, was elected to serve as vice-president. Stuart Silberman will continue to serve in the capacity of treasurer, where his business expertise has proven invaluable. Longtime community volunteer, Fran Martin was installed as secretary.

Several new board members were also elected and several board members have stayed on for a second term, helping to insure that JCC has both continuity and fresh perspectives. Sheila Perlman and Harriet Bakalar are new board members serving three year terms. Avi Dobrusin and Rebecca Friedman will serve one-year terms as teen members. Michael Levine, Eliot Gertel, and Norm Miller all were elected to their second term on the board. Outgoing board members Betty Hammond, David Palan, Ed Solomon and Alex Perlman and outgoing president, Elaine Margolis, were honored for their hard work and dedication.

As is tradition at the annual meeting, several volunteers were given awards for outstanding efforts on behalf of the JCC. Fran Martin and Pam Landau were awarded a President's Award for their work on the JCC auction which raised more than $35,000 for renovations. Additionally, Treasurer Stu Silberman was awarded a President's Award for his active involvement in the JCC's financial health. Three members received Above and Beyond Awards for going the extra mile for the JCC: Sue Adler has made herself indispensable at the JCC; there is no job too big or too small for Adler to tackle; exercise instructor, Karen Silverman, has been the Center's fitness guru for over a decade and has a loyal following; and incoming President Seth Penchansky's has used his skill and vision to help insure the Center is vibrant, viable and green.

President Award winners Pam Landau and Fran Martin

Both outgoing President Elaine Margolis and Executive Director Leslie Bash took the opportunity to thank the entire community for helping to make the JCC warm, inclusive and dynamic. Hardworking and energetic volunteers, and an involved and focused board of directors have proven indispensable to the agency's success.

Local authors sought for the Jewish Book Festival

Julie Gales, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor is searching for local authors to participate in the Jewish Book Festival, an annual event that will take place this year from Tuesday, November 3 through Sunday, November 15. Writers can promote their new books at The Local Author Brunch on Sunday, November 15 from 10 a.m. to noon. Books must be written by a Jewish author or have Jewish content and must have been published within the last year. To submit a book or for further information, contact Julie Gales at 971-0990 or juliegales@jccfed.org. Submissions must be received by Friday, October 2, 2009.

JCC has new name

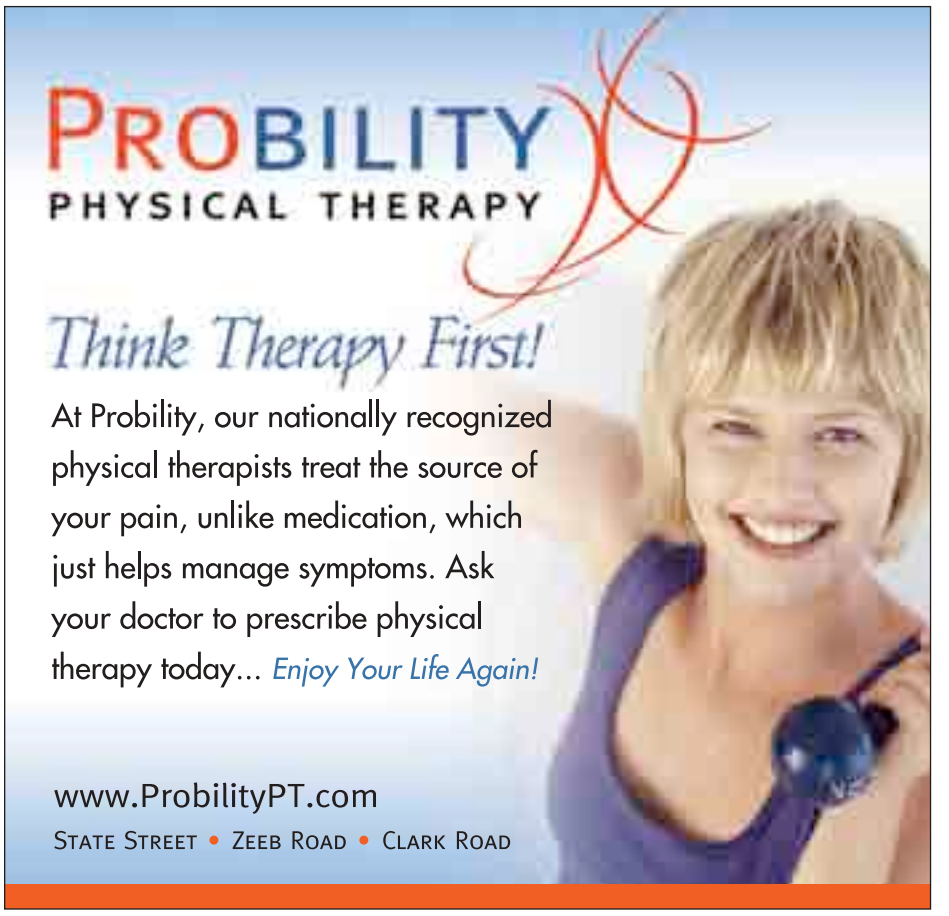
At their Annual Meeting on June 7, the Jewish Community Center of Washtenaw County voted to change its name to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. The JCC board of directors felt that having "Ann Arbor" in the name would facilitate national recognition because most people outside the state are unfamiliar with Washtenaw County. Additionally, members felt that it was important to have the JCC's name in alignment with the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, which undertook a similar name change in 2008. Although the JCC has a new name, its purpose, mission and programming remain unchanged.

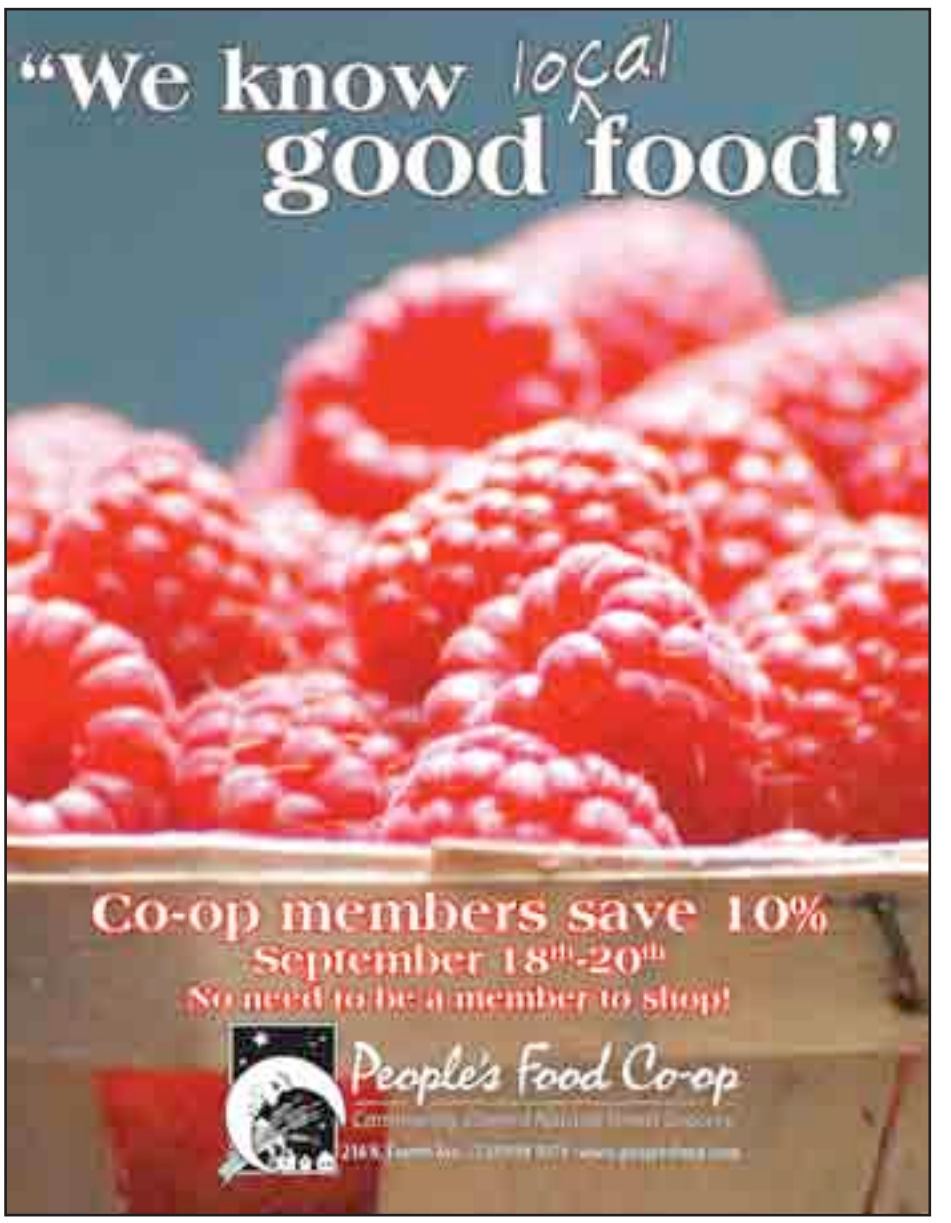
Melton, continued from page 1

- A commitment to learning: The Melton Mini-School course was developed specifically for adult learners. There are no examinations and no homework. The only prerequisite is a commitment to learn.
- Sophisticated curriculum: The curriculum was written by a team of experts at the Hebrew University's Melton Centre for Jewish Education—the world's largest academic center for Jewish education. It is offered at more than 65 locations in North America, Europe, Australia, and Israel.
- Quality teaching and learning: The Melton Mini-School faculty are educators within one's community. They participate in ongoing professional enrichment programs. The Melton teaching style encourages questioning and discussion in a pluralistic classroom environment.

Year One and Year Two classes will be offered on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9:15 p.m. at the JCC. All classes begin September 9 and run for 30 weeks, excluding holidays. Tuition for either year one or year two is $550 and includes the Melton student readers.

For more information or to register, contact Julie Gales at 971-0990 or juliegales@jccfed.org. ■





GIVE US TWO HOURS A WEEK AND WE'LL GIVE YOU 5,000 YEARS

the florence melton adult mini-school

In Ann Arbor

SIGN UP FOR ENLIGHTENED JEWISH STUDY
TWO YEAR CURRICULUM
Located at the JCC of Greater Ann Arbor

Currently Enrolling Students for Melton Year 1 and Year 2

BOTH CLASSES BEGIN
SEPTEMBER 9, 2009
FOR 30 WEEKS
Wednesdays, 7:00-9:15 p.m.

COST: $550.00 PER STUDENT, PER YEAR
(Includes Melton Student Reader)

For more information, contact
Julie Gales at 734-971-0990
or juliegales@jccfed

Sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor with support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor and The Covenant Foundation and in collaboration with a consortium of community congregations and organizations.

Come join us on the path of Jewish Meaning

Prospective Member Shabbat
Friday, September 11
6:45 p.m. Join Rabbi Levy for a discussion:
"What is Reform Judaism, Anyway?"
7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service

Join us any week for:
5:30 p.m.
Tot Shabbat and dinner followed by songs and Popsicle Oneg

7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Service

Temple Beth Emeth

2309 Packard St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.templebethemeth.org
665-4744

Please contact Rommie Simon at
rsimon@templebethemeth.org with questions.

Fishman-DiPietro Family Foundation programming begins

Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor has announced the first of the special senior programming events underwritten by the Fishman-DiPietro Family Foundation. The Foundation was set up in 2006 by Alice Fishman and Michael DiPietro not only in memory of their mothers, Sybil Fishman and Pauline DiPietro, but also in honor of Alice's father, Steve Fishman, a longtime participant of the JCC's SPICE Older Adult program.

"The JCC has been good to our family and I wanted to do something for seniors," said Alice in a recent meeting to discuss the event.

On Sunday, October 25, members of the Michigan Opera Theater will present "Lullaby of Broadway" a program combining songs from Broadway and light-opera. The program was chosen as a tribute to Steve Fishman's long career in the New York theater.

Alice and Steve Fishman

The concert will begin at 2 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive. Refreshments and beverages will be available at 1:30 p.m. Tickets will be available for $5 at the door and the JCC reception desk. Call Merrill Poliner, JCC SPICE Older Adults Coordinator, at 971-0990 for more information, to order tickets or to arrange transportation through Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County's transportation services. ■

Older Adult program highlights

Merrill L. Poliner, special to the WJN

Literary Group resumes in September

The JCC Literary group has been meeting for over 16 years with Professor Sidney Warshausky as its facilitator. The group will reconvene on Thursday, September 3, at 2:15 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. The first meeting's agenda includes the selection of books. All those interested in participated are invited to come to the group to provide feedback about the reading choice.

Ann Arbor Symphony returns for another season of Afternoon Delights

The Afternoon Delights concert season will open with a performance by the Andiamo Quartet on Wednesday, September 23. This season there is a change in time with the concerts beginning at 1:30 p.m. and seating and refreshments available at 1 p.m.Tickets are $8 for a single concert, $23 for a small series of 3 concerts and $35 for the entire series of 5 concerts and may be purchased at the door or by contacting the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra at 994-4801or http://www.a2s0.org.

The rest of the Afternoon Delights schedule is as follows: Arie & Friends: Wednesday, October 14. Brahms Trio: Wednesday, November 18. Arie & Friends: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 Woodwind Quintet: Wednesday, May 26, 2010. The Ann Arbor Symphony staff will supplement the performances with visits to the JCC SPICE program featuring previews of the orchestra's 2009–2010 concert season.

Laura Dunbar, Education and Community Outreach Director of the AASO, will be at the JCC on Thursday, September 3 and Thursday, March 4, 2010 and will be accompanied by Arie Lipsky, musical director of the orchestra on Thursday, January 21, 2010. These presentations are free to the public. A dairy buffet lunch served at noon may be purchased for $3.

High Holiday senior meal

In coordination with Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County, the Jewish Community Center will host a High Holiday Lunch for Seniors. The five-course lunch will be served at 11 a.m.–1 p.m. There is a $20 fee for the meal. Reservations are required by September 10 and can be made by calling 971-0990. The first Afternoon Delights concert will follow the lunch at 1:30 p.m.

Calling all Bridge players

Beginning Tuesday, September 1, there will be regularly scheduled bridge games at the JCC on Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m., following the dairy lunch bufftet. Cards and score pads will be provided. Bring a partner and receive a coupon for a free lunch at a future date.

If you have any questions, comments or would like to arrange transportation through the JFS CareVan, call Merrill Poliner, JCC SPICE program coordinator, at 971-0990.

September SPICE* of Life

*Social, Physical, Intellectual, Cultural, and Educational Programs for Adults

Tuesdays

10 a.m.: "The Bible in It's Time" with Liz Fried. 8 sessions through October 27. Tuition free for Washtenaw County residents 65 and older through Washtenaw Community College Outreach Program. Call Merrill Poliner, 971-0990 to register.

11 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10

Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person

1 p.m.: Games and Activities. Join in for a variety of games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects, and other card games. *New* Bridge club at 1 starting September 1.

1:30 p.m.: Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). Open to the public as well as University of Michigan faculty, staff and students, all ages and levels welcome. Beanster's Café, ground floor, Michigan League. Free. For more information, call 936-2367.

Thursdays

10 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10

11 a.m.: Current Events with Heather Dombey. A Jewish perspective on this week's news. Bring items of interest for group discussion.

Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person

1 p.m.: Thursday Special Events and Presentations (see below for details)

2:15 p.m.: Literary Group facilitated by Sidney Warschausky, Call Merrill Poliner, 971-0990, for more information and the current book.

Fridays

1:30 p.m.: Yiddish Reading Group at the Jewish Community Center. Call Ray Juni for additional information at 761-2765

Wednesday special events and presentations

September 23

11 a.m.: Senior High Holiday Luncheon. $20. R.S.V.P. by September 10. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for more information and registration.

1 p.m. Afternoon Delights Concert presenting The Andiamo Quartet sponsored by the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Tickets $8 at the door or through the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. NOTE: TIME CHANGE

Thursday special events and presentations

September 3

12:30 p.m. Birthday celebration for all with September birthdays! Bring your family and friends for lunch and birthday cake.

1 p.m. Laura Dunbar, Education and Community Outreach Coordinator for the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra brings a preview and insights into the Orchestra's 2009/2010 season.

September 10

12:30 p.m. A registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address any questions. Free. (This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month.)

1 p.m. Jean Miller, Registered Nutritionist with Washtenaw County FoodSafe Program will tell us what we can do to make sure what we eat, serve and store is safe.

September 17

12:30 p.m. Allison Pollock, MSW, Jewish Family Services Geriatric Social Worker will be available for discussion, questions and assistance. 1 p.m. Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, David Shtulman, will present on "Making Jewish Community thrive in Ann Arbor."

September 24

1 p.m. Join the JCC Seniors on a trip to the University of Michigan Art Museum for a docent tour. Round trip transportation is $5.Call Merrill, 971-0990, by September 15th for reservations.

October 1

12:30 p.m. Birthday celebration for all with September birthdays! Bring your family and friends for lunch and birthday cake. 1 p.m. JCC SPICE Older Adults Annual Meeting. Join SPICE for a free lunch and discussion about ideas for future activities, presentations and trips.

Seniors at Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Afternoon Delights

Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies
University of Michigan
202 S. Thayer St., Suite 2111
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1608

2009-2010 Events Calendar

Monday, September 14
12 noon 202 S. Thayer St. Room 2022
Rivka Bliboim,
Padnos Visiting Professor
Linguistic Approaches to the Approach of the Messiah

Tuesday, October 13
12 noon 202 S. Thayer St., Room 1022
Katharina von Kellenbach,
St. Mary's College
The Politics of Christian Discourses of Forgiveness: Prison Chaplains Counsel Nazi Perpetrators 1945-1980

Wednesday, October 14
7 pm 202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022
Keren McGinity, Mandell S. Berman
Postdoctoral Fellow
Of Mice and Mensches: An American History of Intermarriage and Fatherhood

Thursday, October 22
7:30 pm, Michigan League,
Henderson Room
Steve Ascheim, Hebrew University
Central European Jewish Cultural Identities

Tuesday, November 3
7 pm, 202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022
Jenna Weissman Joselit,
Princeton University
The View from the Gallery: Why Jewish Museums Matter

Wednesday, November 18
7 pm, 202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022
Ari Weinzweig, Zingerman's
Rye Bread & Anarchism

Tuesday, December 1
12 noon, 202 S. Thayer St., Room 1022
Aharon Oppenheimer,
Holy War in Ancient Judaism

Sunday, January 17
4 pm, Kerrytown Concert House
Caroline Helton & Kathryn Goodson
Voices of the Holocaust (Recital)

Thursday, February 11
4 pm, 202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022
David Shneer, UC Boulder
Bearing Witness: Soviet Jewish Photographers Confront World War II & The Holocaust

Wednesday, February 17
4 pm, 202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022
Eric Goldstein, Emory University
Turning a Page: Immigrant Jews, Reading, and American Identity

Wednesday, March 17
7 pm, 202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022
David Stern,
University of Pennsylvania
Through the Pages of the Past: The Jewish Book in History

For the most up-to-date event information, visit www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic

Allocations report to the community

by David Shtulman, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

The 2009 Allocations Committee was tasked with an especially difficult assignment this year. It is never easy to allocate monies raised by the Federation Annual Campaign in a manner that most efficiently meets the myriad needs of the Jewish communities in Ann Arbor and around the world, as is our charge. In this particular year of economic recession, when human needs everywhere are at their greatest and the number of allocable dollars reduced, every decision carried clear consequences for service delivery.

In 2008, a total of $1,711,717 was available for allocation. In 2009, the campaign raised $1,475,000. This leaves $234,634 fewer dollars to allocate this year. Part of the shortfall has been relieved by income from the 2009 Humanitarian Award Dinner, which is not part of the Annual Campaign. After expenses and a $3,000 award to the Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan, the designated charity of the honorees, Norman and Debbie Herbert, an additional $45,000 became available for allocation.

The Allocations Committee decided that under these conditions, the top priorities should be to address human needs and to support vulnerable community members. The Federation board of directors also decided earlier that the proceeds of the Humanitarian Award Dinner, usually distributed in a separate grant request process, would be assigned to local needs. This was a departure from prior years, during which the proceeds had been made available as grants for new and innovative programs. The Federation felt that at this time, the priority should be to sustain needed existing programs rather than launch new ones.

In March 2009, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was sent out to all Federation beneficiaries, who were asked to submit a budget based on a flat allocation and a second budget based on a 10% cut of the Federation allocation and to indicate what the impact of that cut would be on service delivery.

At the end of March, the Allocations Committee divided itself into sub-groups of two or three and made site visits to each beneficiary to better understand the specific needs and circumstances of each beneficiary. On March 30, the Allocations Committee convened, heard the reports of each grouping and discussed areas that needed further clarification.

In the third week of April, every beneficiary came to the Federation and made a final presentation to the full Allocations Committee. During these meetings, it was clearly explained once again that there were significantly fewer dollars available this year, not only locally, but nationally and internationally as well. The Jewish communal system is facing a new reality and must adapt itself to this new situation that will require service providers to choose which services they can continue and which they can no longer sustain.

On Sunday, April 26, the Allocations Committee convened to determine its allocations recommendations. Because of the shortfall in allocable dollars, the Allocations Committee recommended borrowing $26,486 from the emergency reserve fund ($150,000) to help support local needs. Allocations recommendations were determined and on May 18 the Federation Board approved the recommendations of the Allocations Committee. These allocations are presented in the summary below.

Federation allocations can generally be divided into three categories: allocations to support national Jewish agencies, allocations to support the global Jewish community, and allocations to support local Jewish needs.

Allocations to support national Jewish Agencies

• Birthright Israel is a national program supported by a combination of the Israel government, the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), national Jewish foundations and Federation allocations to provide a free Israel experience to Jewish college students, age 18–26, who have never been to Israel. Birthright has provided the first Israel experience for more than 200,000 young Jews from the U.S. and 52 other countries.

• The Jewish Council on Public Affairs (JCPA) is the national umbrella organization for Jewish Community Relations Councils. They serve as the national voice for federation councils, provide backgrounders and serve as advisors to local communities when issues or activities of concern to the Jewish community arise locally. This allocation represents our dues and enables us to access the services of the organization.

Allocations to support Israel and Global Jewish Communities

We have adopted the term "Israel and Global Jewish Communities" to replace "Israel/Overseas" because it better reflects the true nature of this allocation. Funding from this line goes to two organizations, the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and the Joint Distribution Center (JDC) in proportions set by contractual agreements between UJC, JAFI and JDC. For complete information about the activities of these organizations, go to their respective websites, JAFI.org and JDC.org.

•JAFI works on the rescue and resettlement of vulnerable Jewish populations in Israel, immigration services for all other people who choose to make aliyah, support and integration services for new immigrants, preparatory services in those countries from which Jews are leaving, and as the liaison organization between Israel and Jewish communities around the world. In recent years, they have become the primary creator of Zionist education materials and programming for the Diaspora as well.

•JDC is the primary global support organization serving at-risk Jewish communities around the world who do not plan to leave their current countries of residence. Hundreds of thousands of Jews in the FSU, Eastern Europe, South and Central America, as well as Asia, rely on the services of the JDC for their survival. JDC also provides outstanding social service programs for vulnerable populations in Israel.

Because JAFI and JDC are often providing complementary services to the same populations in and outside of Israel, their programs are well-coordinated.

The Israel and Global Jewish Communities allocation is the vehicle through which Diaspora communities fulfill the mitzvah of "Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh ba Zeh." (All Jews are Responsible for One Another.)

Approximately 25% of the Israel and Global Jewish Communities allocation is designated by the Ann Arbor Federation for the support of programs chosen specifically by Federation committees because they reflect the values and interests of our community. Federation staff and volunteers review the programs, make site visits, and communicate with the programs. The emphasis of these programs is Arab/Jewish coexistence and addressing the needs of particularly vulnerable populations. These programs include the following:

•The Hand in Hand Schools are dual language Hebrew/Arabic schools that serve both Jewish and Arab students in mixed classes, each with an Arab and an Israeli teacher. Each school also has an Arab and a Jewish co-principal. From its start with one small school in the Galilee, Hand in Hand now educates more than 750 students in Jerusalem, Wadi Ara, Beersheva and the Galilee.

SELAH Israel Crisis Management Center offers immediate emotional and material support to new immigrants facing personal crises. Through its network of 500 volunteers, SELAH aids those who have suffered from terror attacks, loss of loved ones and severe financial crisis. Among their many projects are support groups for grandparents raising orphaned children and educational assistance for victims of domestic violence.

• Parents and Children Together (PACT) is a holistic multi-year approach to address the significant learning gaps between Ethiopian-Israeli children and their Israeli peers. Ann Arbor partners with Detroit to fund PACT in Netanya, where over the past seven years the language and literacy gap was reduced by 33% and the gap in math was reduced by 81%. Programs include early daycare and extra support for afterschool programs in the areas of literacy, math, healthcare and development resources for parents and children to learn Israeli culture together.

• The Ramle Mediation Center serves the Muslim, Christian and Jewish communities that live in the mixed city with a range of programs and services to resolve conflicts and aid in the integration of the ethnic communities by fostering dialogue and using ethnic customs to reduce tensions.

• Partnership 2000 is a national program that creates sister-community relationships between Israeli and American communities. As part of the Michigan-Central Galilee partnership, Ann Arbor is partnered with Moshav Nahalal, the first moshav in Israel, and is developing a series of projects designed to build understanding and friendship between our communities.

There has been a shift over the last years from global to local funding, which represents the growth of local services and the increased costs of supporting those services. In this year of especially difficult recession in Michigan, that shift towards local needs grew further. It is important to note, however, that there has not been a decreased need in the global Jewish community and the Federation recognizes that we shift funding to meet our local needs at the expense of others. There are excellent arguments for shifting this balance in either direction and strong community advocates for both sides. The Federation struggles annually to find the position that best reflects our mission and the wishes of our donors, fully

Allocations for the 2009–2010 Fiscal Year

	08/09 Allocation	09/10 Allocation	Dif erence
Allocations to Support National Jewish Agencies			
Birthright Israel	$7,840	$5,000	($2,840)
Jewish Council on Public Affairs	$1,470	$1,500	$30
Allocations to support Israel and Global Jewish Communities			
Israel and Global Jewish Communities	$495,390	$371,543	($123,847)
United Jewish Communities (Fair Share Dues)	$50, 455	$54,979	$4,524
Allocations to support Local Jewish Needs			
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor			
Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Ann Arbor	$610,148	$558,532	($51,616)
Chabad of Ann Arbor	$5,880	$5,000	($880)
Jewish Educators Council	$16,415	$7,000	($9,415)
Hebrew Day School	$104,860	$88,888	
Humanitarian Dinner Grant		$10,000	
Total Allocation		$98,888	($5,972)
Hillel at the University of Michigan	$13,524	$5,000	($8,524)
Hillel at Eastern Michigan University	$12,250	$12,000	($250)
Jewish Community Center	$176,400	$149,940	
Humanitarian Dinner Grant		$10,000	
Total Allocation		$159,940	($16,460)
Jewish Family Services	$103,880	$88,104	
Humanitarian Dinner Grant		$10,000	
Total Allocation		$98,104	($5,776)
Emergency Assistance Fund $15,000 (administered by JFS for Federation)			
Keshet Ann Arbor	$16,346	$14,000	($2,346)
Scholarships for Israel Programs	$9,800	$0	($9,800)
Scholarships for Summer Camps	$9,800	$0	($9,800)
Security Services	$100,000	$100,000	$0
Reserve for Unmet Pledges	$25,875	$40,000	$14,125

Allocations Committee: Stacey Lee, Chair, Laurie Barnett, Co-chair, Herb Amster, Harriet Bakalar, Steve Berger, Charles Butter, Susan Fisher, Ed Goldman, Susan Gross, Ron Perry, Jonathan Trobe. Staff: David Shtulman

aware that it is impossible to satisfy everyone. We also hope to be able to restore some funding to the Israel and Global Jewish Communities allocation when the economy and our campaign pick up again.

United Jewish Communities (UJC) is the national umbrella organization for all federations. It provides numerous support services for the federation world and serves as the primary policy and professional training body. In addition, UJC is the liaison between American Jewry and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), the two primary service organizations to Jewish communities in Israel and around the world. Among services provided by UJC that the Ann Arbor community has benefited from in the last year are: Executive director search services, continuing professional education seminars for staff, mission planning services in Israel, assistance for local travelers to Israel, sponsoring the General Assembly and Lion of Judah conferences, administering the Partnership 2000 program, hosting the federation website and providing national marketing services.

This allocation represents our dues to UJC, which are decided by a three-year rolling fair share formula based on population and campaign results. This year, UJC reduced federation dues by 18% from 2008. However, since we had underpaid our dues in 2008 because the assessment was made after the allocations process was complete, the cost to our community is still more than what we paid last year. UJC dues are counted towards the Israel and Global Jewish Communities allocations by agreements reached during the merger of the United Jewish Appeal and the Council of Jewish Federations, which formed the UJC in 1999.

Allocations to support local Jewish needs

• Local Jewish needs incorporates a host of allocations ranging from support to groups that work throughout the community like the Jewish Educators Council, and the Hebrew instruction program for high school students, Keshet Ann Arbor to area agencies, security needs and the Federation budget itself. In addition, there is always a reserve fund set aside to account for pledges made but not fulfilled by donors.

The Federation made every effort in its allocations process to keep whole the programs that serve our local community. This was not possible because of the deficit that had to be absorbed and the amount of fixed costs that exist in the community. Therefore, the Federation gave priority to those programs that safeguard human needs and direct services, sacrificing, for the time being, certain items that might be considered non-essential like Israel trip and summer camp scholarships. It is the Federation's hope to restore these scholarship funds as soon as the economy and our campaign allow.

The largest cut locally was made in the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, which also includes the budget for the Jewish Community Foundation. The Federation is charged with being the primary fundraising organization for the Jewish community; operating the Jewish Community Foundation; being the umbrella organization for all Jewish communal agencies; and the liaison to other Jewish communities and organizations across the nation and around the world. Federation also administers community-wide programs like PJ Library; the community relations and Israel advocacy committees; and sponsors community events like the Main Event, Celebrate Israel and the Biennial Humanitarian Award Dinner.

The Jewish Community Foundation provides the opportunity for community members to create planned gifts and endowments for the long-term support of all local Jewish communal congregations, agencies and organizations as well as the Federation. The funds are managed and invested by the Detroit Federation Foundation and administered by the staff of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor.

The Federation understands that a reduced campaign and reduced allocations force each beneficiary to make difficult choices and that Federation must lead by example. Therefore, we have imposed the most severe reduction on the Federation budget. There will no longer be a community shaliach after August 2009. The Young Adult Division coordinator has left and will not be replaced. The responsibilities of these staff members will be divided among the remaining staff so far as possible and some functions may be dropped entirely. Despite taking on additional responsibilities, staff will have their salaries frozen, certain benefits reduced and all conference, travel and professional development eliminated.

In order to stay within the new budget, Federation will need to make several changes in the way it operates. We will sponsor fewer programs, invitations to most programs will be done by e-vite and email blast to save the costs of invitation design, printing and postage. Participant costs for certain events will rise to make them budget neutral. Federation will no longer be able to support other community programs through financial co-sponsorships as we have in the past. There will be some trickle-down impact on other organizations such as the Washtenaw Jewish News because we will spend less on advertising and agencies that rely on Federation for sponsorship of their programs. Therefore, it is likely that participant costs for some of their programs will rise as well.

We would also like to note that while the Federation allocation to our agencies makes up only a portion of the agency budgets, the allocation makes up the totality of the Federation budget. Therefore, while the final reduction to the agencies this year will represent only about one percent of an agency's total budget, the reduction to the Federation budget will be a full eight percent.

While there may be some adjustments for all of us during this period, the Federation is proud that most allocations to the agencies that provide direct services to meet the needs of our community members have remained virtually intact. This does not mean that the agencies will not be under severe pressures of their own. The Federation allocation is only one source of funding for the agencies and even when we stay even, cuts from other sources will need to be accounted for. And cuts are being made everywhere.

• Chabad of Ann Arbor provides services for area college students, adult education courses for the Jewish community, Shabbat and holiday services, and a summer camp for young children.

• The Jewish Educators Council represents the approximately 125 individuals who make up the teachers in Ann Arbor's Jewish schools from early childhood to congregational schools to Keshet Ann Arbor to Hebrew Day School. It provides training programs and access to experts in the field to improve the quality of Jewish education for the children of Ann Arbor.

• Hebrew Day School is the only full-time Jewish school in Ann Arbor. It has a track record of excellent achievement in both Jewish and secular studies. Providing the opportunity for excellence in Jewish education is a primary responsibility of every Jewish community. However, it costs a great deal of money to provide a dual curriculum education and tuition is costly. The economy has pushed HDS out of reach for many families who would otherwise choose to send their children there and although the Federation allocation provides the bulk of the scholarship dollars available to HDS, it is not nearly enough to compensate. In addition, with a relatively small enrollment in the best of times, it becomes extremely difficult to absorb the decreased income represented by each tuition fee that is lost. Federation will provide all possible assistance to HDS to find solutions that allow it to continue to deliver the excellent education that has become their hallmark.

• Hillel at the University of Michigan is perhaps the finest Hillel program in the nation. They do an outstanding job of serving the approximately 6,000 Jewish students who study there. They have a national fundraising campaign that approximates the size of the Federation campaign. The Ann Arbor allocation is as much symbolic of our appreciation of their outstanding work as it is a meaningful part of their operational budget.

continued on page 34

Excitement builds over Federation's annual campaign

Jeffrey Lazor, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor has announced the 2010 Annual Campaign Leadership Team. Led by Campaign Co-Chairs Susan Gross and Ed Goldman, this year's team includes Laurie Barnett, Charlie Butter, Steven Gerber, Steven Leber, Stacey Lee, Nancy Margolis, and Hillary Murt. Each member of this team was tapped for his or her wealth of experience and knowledge as past solicitors and community-wide leaders. This group faces a tough task—rebuilding and restoring the community's annual campaign in an economy that is slowly showing signs of recovery.

"The Campaign Leadership Team is one of the most important and hands-on leadership positions within the Federation. Its members are charged with keeping in close contact with and motivating nearly 100 campaign volunteers and they provide important and meaningful feedback for Ed and me," said Susan Gross. "This is an important year for our Jewish community and that makes their responsibilities that much greater. We are so glad to have such dedicated and experienced leadership working with us to ensure a successful 2010 Annual Campaign."

This year's team is looking forward to getting things started. The Federation has planned many programs for their fall/winter events, highlighted by the Young Adult Division's Night of Hilarity and Charity featuring the Sklar Brothers on October 22 and the Federation's Main Event with Peter Sagal on November17. With a growing donor base (140 new gifts in 2009) and community-minded volunteers, it's easy to see why the campaign co-chairs have high hopes for this year's efforts. "I am excited to be working on the campaign this year both because I really appreciate the work the Federation agencies do for our community and because I am working with such a dedicated group of volunteers," remarked Ed Goldman.

Campaign Leader Team

The Campaign Leadership Team knows that it will take creative thinking and hard work to ensure success for the campaign and think that the Federation has assembled the right team for the job. "I am very committed to this project because I want to see our communal institutions survive and thrive," said Hillary Murt. Included in this hard work will be the educating and re-educating of the community and volunteers about the Federation's message, the programs it support locally and overseas and the importance of giving to the Jewish community, added Goldman,

The 2010 Annual Campaign will kick off with the Solicitor Rally on September 1, at 7 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Solicitors will have an opportunity to help shape the coming campaign year while learning about the new ideas developed by the Campaign chairs and leadership team. ■

For more information or to join the solicitor team, contact Jeff Lazor at 677-0100 or by email at jeffl azor@jewishannarbor.org.

Fall activities at Beth Israel Congregation

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Beth Israel 2009 Fun Fair

On September 6, from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Beth Israel Congregation will offer a free outdoor event open to everyone in the Jewish community. (In case of rain, the program will be held indoors). The event features activities for all ages: Bounce House, Cupcake Walk, Caricature Artist, Wii Rock Band Tourney, Juggling instruction, Israeli Dancing, Soccer and Traditional Lawn Relays, Plant a Seed activity, Arts and Crafts and Face-painting, Book-time with Bubbie/Zaideh, Mahjong—with instruction (players should bring their own set), Bingo, Shofar Blowing Instruction, and more. All activities will take place at 2000 Washtenaw Ave.

The snow cones are free. There is a charge for the kosher barbecue hot dog lunch.

Adult Hebrew classes

Beth Israel Congregation offers professionally taught Adult Hebrew Classes open to anyone in Washtenaw County. There are various levels of Conversational Hebrew, and Biblical Hebrew, with 12-week semesters in the Fall and Winter. There are classes for those with no knowledge of Hebrew whatsoever and for those who are fluent and wish to maintain their skills

For the first time, a weekday daytime Beginning Hebrew class will be offered on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. starting September 23, taught by Pauli Weizman. This class is intended for those with little or no Hebrew experience and offers a review of beginning Hebrew reading skills, as well as some prayer and conversational vocabulary.

Reading Biblical Hebrew I will be held on Wednesday at 6 p.m. starting September 23, while Reading Biblical Hebrew 2 will start on the same day at 7 p.m. Reading Biblical Hebrew 3 will be held on Tuesdays at 6 p.m., beginning on September 22. The five levels of Conversational Hebrew will all start on the week of September 21. Please request the Fall registration materials for the finalized days and times for Conversational Hebrew.

Malli Holoshitz, who teaches the Conversational Hebrew classes, is a native Israeli who has taught Hebrew for many years; she is noted for her lively and animated teaching style. She earned a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Michigan, and has taught at the Frankel Jewish Academy of Metro Detroit, Keshet Ann Arbor, and at the School of Education at Eastern Michigan University, as well as at the University of Michigan.

Pauli Weizman, who teaches Biblical Hebrew, has been teaching Hebrew at the University of Michigan since 1987. She is the recipient of an "Excellence in Education" award by the Department of Near Eastern Studies. She is a also a native Israeli and has earned two Master's degrees—one in Teaching English as a Second Language and the other in Social Work; she also has a Bachelor's degree in Hebrew Linguistics. Weizman teaches at Keshet Ann Arbor, and has developed her own introductory Hebrew course pack (with a compatible online program) entitled "Getting Acquainted."

For registration forms, contact Beth Israel Congregation, 665-9897, or email rabbisoffice@bethisrael-aa.org. There is a fee. Members of either Beth Israel Congregation or Temple Beth Emeth receive a subsidy rate underwritten by their congregations.

Fall Lunch and Learn Series—examining the themes of the High Holidays

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin and Rabbi Kim Blumenthal will facilitate the Fall Lunch and Learn Series. Each session will begin with the viewing of a television show intended to inspire discussion and will include the study of traditional Jewish texts relating to the different themes. Sessions take place on Wednesdays, Sept. 9, 16, and 23 from noon to 1:15 p.m. at Beth Israel Congregation Garfunkel Schteingart Activity Center, 2010 Washtenaw. Participants are asked to bring a dairy lunch, and beverages and dessert are provided. There is no charge or preregistration necessary to participate.

Monday Night Text Study—Maimonides on the laws of Shabbat

This class will study sections from Maimonides' Mishnah Torah that deal with the laws of Shabbat. In the selections, the class will consider issues such as pikuach nefesh (saving a life) as it relates to Shabbat, the permissibility of having others do prohibited work for us on Shabbat and the meaning of the tradition of Shabbat candle lighting. Can Maimonides' approach to the meaning of Shabbat enhance our own observance today? All selections will be read in Hebrew with English translations. No Hebrew background required. There is no charge for this drop-in series.

This class is facilitated by Rabbi Robert Dobrusin and will meet September 14–October 26 (except September 28)

New Level I Mussar Study Group beginning

A new introductory level Mussar class is now scheduled to meet every other Tuesday evening from 7–8:30 p.m. beginning October 20 (registration deadline is September 30). The course, called Season of Mussar I, is based on the materials developed by Dr. Alan Morinis of The Mussar Institute. (See www.mussarinstitute.org for details.)

The course covers six middot (or traits) over a 12-week period. Sample traits include Humility, Gratitude, and Trust. Keeping these traits in balance helps us lead our lives with more equanimity. Each week The Mussar Institute sends texts via email for self-study. Then the participants meet one week all together to discuss the study questions and the alternate week with a study partner to discuss more personal reactions to the material.

The course officially begins Oct. 13 with readings distributed to participants to prepare for the first group meeting on Oct. 20. The remaining group meetings will be November 3, 17; December 1, 15; January 5, 19. [The program includes six meetings (one for each middah or trait) plus an extra summing up meeting.]

The program costs $100 per person, with payment made directly to The Mussar Institute. Those interested should contact the facilitator of the group, Roann Altman, at 483-8352 or roann@umich.edu, by Sept. 30. Registration instructions will then be forwarded to all participants.

Judaism 101: an introduction and a refresher

Judaism 101 is meant for anyone who is looking to learn or review some of the fundamentals of Judaism. There will be 5 topics covered over the course of the year—The Jewish Calendar, Shabbat, Prayer, Passover, and Sacred Texts. Each topic will be explored for three weeks. Participants are welcome to sign up for one topic, a few topics, or all five topics. All classes begin at 7:30 p.m. with Maariv, the evening service. The classes take place as follows: The Jewish Calendar: 10/14, 10/21, 10/28, Shabbat: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, Prayer: 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, Conservative Judaism: 3/10, 3/17, 3/24. Sacred Texts: 4/21, 4/28, 5/5. Those interested are asked to contact Mary at 665-9897, or email rabbisoffice@bethisrael-aa.org. There is no charge for this series.

This program is free of charge to anyone in the community and no tickets are required.

Childcare is offered for all children ages 3–5 years old on the First Day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur.

Two hour creative child and youth programs are offered on the first and second days of Rosh Hashanah, and on Yom Kippur. There are also separate Kol Nidre services offered to 6th–8th graders, and to 9th–12th graders on erev Yom Kippur.

Pet Shabbat for humans and their loyal pets

On Friday September 11, at 6 p.m. pet owners are asked to bring their beloved pets to a special outdoor Shabbat Celebration for the whole family in the Beth Israel Courtyard. There will be Shabbat songs and blessings for the pets and their owners. The event will conclude with a special oneg for pets and humans.

The regular Kabbalat Shabbat service follows at 7:15 p.m., with pet care provided to those who pre-register.

Selichot Program and Service

The late night Selichot Service at 11 p.m. on Saturday, September 12, is designed to help worshipers direct their hearts and minds to the process of *teshuvah*. It ushers in the High Holiday season with the traditional penitential prayers, readings and song, and concludes before midnight.

Preceding the service at 8:30 p.m. is a Havdalah service followed by the screening of *Groundhog Day*. There will be a Text Study with Rabbi Dobrusin starting at 9:45 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Family Celebration for young children

On Friday, September 18 from 4-4:45 p.m. in the Main Sanctuary, Beth Israel offers its annual "Rosh Hashanah Family Celebration"—a program of stories, songs, a large group activity, special treats and the blowing of the shofar. While the program is intended for families with pre-school and early elementary aged children, all are welcome. This program is offered free of charge to anyone in the community, and no tickets are required.

K – 5 Family Program on Second Day of Rosh Hashanah and Child Care/Services

On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, Sunday, September 20, a Rosh Hashanah family program is offered beginning at 11:15 a.m. in a tent set up in the Beth Israel courtyard. (Children will be brought in from the High Holiday children's programming.) Rabbi Blumenthal will facilitate the activities, including the presentation of a play by the older students. The morning will culminate in a celebration of the birthday of the world.

High Holidays tickets and special dues

Individuals and families who have moved to Washtenaw County since last Yom Kippur, may request free High Holiday tickets as Beth Israel's way of welcoming them into the local Jewish community. Graduate students and First and Second Year Residents with I.D.s may also request free individual tickets. Request forms must be submitted before the holidays, as no tickets can be provided immediately prior to any service.

People who are age 35 or younger may become members at a special rate of $300 for the whole family for their first year of membership (plus USCJ dues assessment of $34.75).

Tickets for the High Holidays are provided free of charge to all members of Beth Israel. Non members may purchase tickets for the High Holiday Services, although no tickets are required for the Rosh Hashanah Family Celebration for Young Children and the K–5 Family Program on the Second Day of Rosh Hashanah. Those interested in further information are asked to call the synagogue office at 665-9897.

Shabbat child care and Tot Shabbat

Tot Shabbat for 3–5 year olds and their parents will meet on Saturday mornings on September 12, from 11 a.m.–noon. Tot Shabbat on September 12 is led by Peretz Hirshbein, Assistant Director of the JCC's Early Childhood Center. Enjoy stories, puppets, songs, and special kiddush tables just for 3–5 year olds. In general, Tot Shabbat is scheduled for every second and fourth Shabbat of the month. There is no charge, and non members are welcome to participate. Childcare for pre-schoolers aged 2–5 years old is offered every Saturday from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

General community is always welcome to events

All of Beth Israel's events, with the exception of High Holiday services (due to limited space and security concerns), plus all educational offerings are open to the general community, often at no cost. If you would like further information, call 665-9897 or visit www.bethisrael-aa.org. ■

Temple Beth Emeth Fall events

Rabbi Lisa Delson, special to the WJN

A season of Mussar

Mussar will be offered at TBE this Fall, beginning September 10. Mussar is an 1,100 year old Jewish practice which is designed to help observers work with their middot (spiritual traits). Mussar explores each spiritual trait separately along with short and easy practices to help people make the changes they would like to see in themselves. This is a three-fold program; reading and learning about the traits that make up one's own personal spiritual curriculum, study in chevruta or partnership, and journaling.

This class runs for seven non-consecutive weeks starting on September 10. The first class will discuss the trait of Anavah (humility). Other topics include Ka'as (anger) October 1, Hakarat Ha'Tov (gratitude) October 15, Bitahon (trust) October 29, Kavod (honor) November 5, Zerizut (alacrity) December 3 with a wrap-up session December 17. The fee is $100 with need-based scholarships for TBE members available through Rabbi Levy. Registration closes September 3. Materials for each meeting and chevruta (study partner) are sent from the Mussar Institute via email to all participants. Class will be taught primarily by TBE's own Judy Freedman.

For more information: Visit www.mussarinstitute.org or call Judy Freedman at 769-1709

Prospective Member Shabbat and Brotherhood BBQ

On Friday, September 11, at 6 p.m., Brotherhood will be hosting a BBQ, and an evening of family, food, and fun. Brotherhood will be serving hot dogs with all of the fixings. A vegetarian meal will also be available. Reservations are required and the cost of the dinner is $10. For more information and reservations, visit the website or call 665-4744.

At 6:45 p.m. all prospective members will have a chance to meet Rabbi Levy and learn more about TBE through a question and answer session on Reform Judaism, its history and opportunities, and about what Temple Beth Emeth has to offer. For more membership information, call 665-4744.

The congregation will come back together for a Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m.. All are welcome.

Preparing your heart for the High Holidays

Rabbi Robert Levy will lead a session on September 12 at 9 p.m. on preparing your heart for the High Holidays" entitled "The Spiritual Path in the Modern World." The world in which one lives can lead one to spiritual awakenings and also provides detours that can lead one away from holiness. This evening will help participants look deeper into the structure of the High Holidays to create the map of a spiritual journey for the New Year to come.

Following this discussion there will be a dessert reception and Selichot services led by Rabbi Levy and Cantor Rose beginning at 10 p.m. All are welcome to attend this session to begin the Days of Awe.

Movie Tuesdays

On September 15 from 1–3 p.m. for a free midday movie, nosh, and short discussion as we watch *God on Trial* presented by Masterpiece Theater. Childcare is available with advanced notice.

Synopsis of September's movie: Why is there so much suffering in the world and what kind of God would allow it to happen? Universal questions about faith and philosophy are at the heart of God on Trial, which was inspired by the legend that a group of concentration camp prisoners conducted a mock trial against the Almighty God. From all walks of life, a physicist, a glove maker, rabbis, a law professor and at least one criminal weigh the evidence and offer thoughtful arguments taken from history, science, theology and personal experience. This film will spark personal thoughts and conversation on this most difficult topic.

Birthday of the World Celebration

What better way to celebrate creation than a Birthday of the World Celebration? On Rosh Hashana, September 1, at 2 p.m., join Cantor Annie Rose at Temple Beth Emeth for a party. This program, for young children and their families, will include songs and prayers for the new year. This celebration will conclude with sharing a birthday cake for the world.

"Generations After" Yom Kippur afternoon service

On Yom Kippur afternoon, September 28, TBE's Generations After group will lead a portion of the afternoon service in the sanctuary. Each year, this group presents prose and poetry written by themselves and by their family members who suffered through the Holocaust. This year, the service will be linked to the ideas of Kiddush Ha'Shem and spreading a message of mercy, righteousness, and humility into the world. ■

U-M Hillel gets help from newly ordained rabbi for High Holidays

Allison Sheren, special to the WJN

While the University of Michigan Hillel annually hosts Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox High Holiday services, finding a good fit for service leaders can often be a challenge. "High Holiday service leading and chazzanut (cantorial leading) often require specific skills that have to be developed over time," notes Rabbi Nathan Martin, Hillel's assistant director. While Rabbi Nathan works with several students annually to train them in chazzanut for Conservative services, he had not been sure how to fill the gap for a Reform rabbinical presence.

Rabbi LisaDelson

Luckily, Temple Beth Emeth (TBE) hired Rabbi Lisa Delson, who recently was ordained from the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, to serve as the new Director of Congregational Services, and was available to help lead Reform services for Hillel. Rabbi Delson is excited to be working with U-M students to create a meaningful High Holiday experience. She talks of her own Hillel experience at the University of Cincinnati (where she was an undergraduate) as being formative in her decision to become a rabbi, and is excited to be able to give back and inspire others as well. As she noted in a recent conversation, "I am honored to have the opportunity to reach out to college students and lead them into the new Jewish year of 5770."

Rabbi Nathan is excited about the shiduch (match) for Reform service leadership. "I am grateful that Rabbi Delson was available to help serve this year, and to Temple Beth Emeth for their support. This is a great example of how Jewish communities in Ann Arbor can share resources in partnerships that can bring benefit to everyone." Hillel hopes that the relationships formed between Rabbi Delson and the Reform students can continue to evolve into future collaborations between the two communities as well. For specific information about High Holiday service times for the Reform and other Hillel services, visit the Hillel website, www.umhillel.org. ■

Pardes Hannah welcomes the community for High Holiday services

Dorrie Rosenblatt, special to the WJN

Everyone in the community is welcome to join Pardes Hannah for High Holiday services. Pardes Hannah is a community within the Jewish Renewal Movement that comes together in an egalitarian minyan, with rabbinic and lay leadership, for prayer, reflection, and study using mystical, meditative, and musical practices to help participants connect with God in their own unique way. Rabbi Elliot Ginsberg will lead the services with the active participation of members of the congregation. The group's spiritual work for the season will focus around the theme of the thirteen attributes of compassion. The Pardes Hannah Torah, is one that was rescued from the Holocaust and was used for the first time since the Holocaust on Rosh Hashanah of 2007.

High Holiday services will be held this year at St Aidan's Episcopal/Northside Community Church at 1679 Broadway. The church is in a beautiful wooded area and provides a welcoming and peaceful setting for services. The first day of Rosh Hashanah, Saturday September 19, the service will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 1:30 p.m. with a kiddush. This service will be a typical Renewal service with prayer, chanting and Hasidic niggunim (melodies). The second day of Rosh Hashanah, Sunday, September 20, there will be a meditation and chanting service beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding at 1 p.m. with a kiddush and a potluck vegetarian luncheon. Taschlich will follow lunch.

Gathering and preparation for the Yom Kippur Kol Nidrei service on Sunday, September 27, will begin at 6:10 p.m. Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on ways that they have strayed from being who they are striving to be. These reflections will be incorporated into the *Al Cheyt* prayer.

The morning service for Yom Kippur, Monday, September 28, will begin at 9:30 a.m. Participants will have the option of Restorative Yoga or a meditative walk at 2:45 p.m. The Yizkor service will begin at 5:15 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to bring a memento of the loved ones they are remembering and there will be an opportunity to share a memory or short story with the community. The final shofar blowing is scheduled for 8 p.m. and will be followed immediately by a vegetarian, potluck, break-the-fast.

Services are open to members and non-members alike. Childcare will be available by prior request. Contributions for participation in the service are appreciated. For more information, go to Pardeshannah.org or call Dorrie Rosenblatt at 665-4186 or Renee Robbins at 761-5324. ■

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah High Holiday services

Alicia Kent, special to the WJN

The Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah welcomes all members of the community to participate in its High Holiday services and activities, which are open and accessible to everyone. Services will be led by the Havurah's rabbinical student intern Aura Ahuvia and Havurah member Deb Kraus. They will be musical and participatory, introspective yet community-oriented.

High Holiday services will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Road. There is no charge for current Havurah members; nonmembers are asked to make a contribution of $126 per household to help cover the costs, or to donate what you can. However, no one will be turned away from prayer. Contributions may be sent to the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah, P.O. Box 7451, Ann Arbor, MI, 48107-7451.

Childcare will be available, but reservations are required and must be made by Friday, September 4. Without advance reservation, childcare will be offered only on a space-available basis.

A catered dairy buffet with traditional Jewish and Middle Eastern foods break-the-fast will be held on September 28, following Ne'ilah (around 8 p.m.). The cost is $15 per person, and payment may be sent to the AARH.

For more information, call 445-1910 or contact info@aarecon.org.

Paul G. Kohn
and
QUALITY KOSHER CATERING
WISH YOU A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR
TO PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR
ROSH HASHANNA MEALS
See our website for menu and order form
www.qualitykosher.com
OR CALL
248-352-7758
Please place your order by Monday, September 14
Orders to be picked up on Friday, September 18
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
at Congregation Shaarey Zedek service entrance

Mimi Cohen Markofsky
and
Elite Kosher Catering
Wish you a
Happy & Healthy New Year
To place your order for
Rosh Hashanah meals
Email us at elitekosherinc@aol.com
Or call us at 248-592-0200
Please place your order by Monday, September 14th
Orders will be ready for pick-up at
Congregation B'nai Moshe
6800 Drake Road, West Bloomfield
From 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Under the supervision of
the Council of Orthodox Rabbis of Greater Detroit

Rosh Hashanah is time for commitment

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

On Rosh Hashanah, Jews worldwide flock to their synagogues and beseech the Almighty to grant them, their families, and all of Israel, a peaceful, happy, and prosperous year. According to Jewish tradition, on Rosh Hashanah every creation passes before the Supernal Judge. He determines who will live and who will not, who will be prosperous and healthy and who will not. Everything that will occur in the coming year is decided on Rosh Hashanah.

Why is everything determined on an annual basis? Can't an eternal and infinite God plan a little further in advance? Would it not be more time and energy efficient to judge perhaps 100 or 1000 years at once?

Why is everything determined on an annual basis? Can't an eternal and infinite God plan a little further in advance? Rosh Hashanah commemorates the Sixth Day of Creation, the day when God formed Adam and Eve and breathed into their nostrils the breath of life. An understanding of the dynamic of creation will explain the significance of Rosh Hashanah.

Certain things are taken for granted. For example, when we turn on a sink faucet we expect and assume that water will emerge from the tap. Or a child in most households who opens the refrigerator expects to find food on its shelves. In truth, however, neither the water nor the food appears on their own. There is a well-staffed company that maintains the water pipes and pumps necessary to draw water from the reservoir into the residential home, and parents invest incredible energy to stock the refrigerator.

The same is true with creation. It seems that the world stands on its own. We assume that that which existed a moment ago will continue existing a moment later. But, in fact, the Creator is perpetually maintaining the cosmos. In the absence of the steady flow of Divine energy all would cease to exist, much as the water in the tap would stop flowing if the water company went under.

And every once in a while, or once a year to be more precise, God loses interest in His creation pastime. We were created because God desired to be a beneficent king, and consequently we, His subjects, came into being; creatures upon whom God could heap His otherwise unused infinite capacity for kindness. But at the onset of every year's Rosh Hashanah, God loses interest, as it were, in His finite and flawed subjects. He withdraws, becomes introverted, and we need to provide Him with an incentive to continue creating for one more year.

This isn't because He has a short attention span and habitually loses interests in projects before they reach completion, rather this phenomenon is part and parcel of the master plan.

When God originally created this world, there was nothing that elicited the grand gesture. There was no one around yet to elicit anything; it was an act of pure kindness. But ultimately, "pure kindness" isn't so kind after all. It leaves its beneficiary feeling unworthy of undeserved beneficence. That's why God created a world wherein everything, even our existence itself, is rightfully earned. If the world will remain in existence for another year, it will be because we stimulated God's desire to continue on course.

"Pure kindness" isn't so kind after all. It leaves its beneficiary feeling unworthy. Thus on Rosh Hashanah, the anniversary of our creation, it is up to us to ensure that everything continues.

We go to the synagogue and proclaim, "Reign over the entire world in Your glory." We "remind" God of His love for His chosen people, reaccept Him as our absolute King, and express our innermost desire to serve Him for yet another year. We "remind" Him of the enthusiasm He originally had when creating the world almost 6,000 years ago.

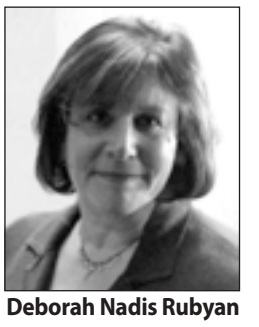
And when words fail us, due their inherent inability to communicate the deepest heartfelt feelings, we take a shofar, a medium whose simple weeping notes convey the wordless cry and request which emanates from the core of our souls — "Father, King, we need You and love You, and we know that the feelings are mutual!"

This Rosh Hashanah as we congregate in the synagogues, let us bear in mind that what hangs in the balance in the coming year is more than our personal welfare. All of creation is counting on us. Let us wholeheartedly commit ourselves to God, and He will surely reciprocate by committing to grant all of us a beautiful and meaningful year. ■

Change comes to the JCS Sunday School

Kate Jones Share, special to the WJN

Deborah Nadis Rubyan, from West Bloomfield, has been hired as the new principal at the Jewish Cultural School. Former principal Lori Moizio is leaving her post for a full-time teaching position in the Ann Arbor Public Schools.



Deborah Nadis Rubyan

Rubyan comes from a family of Jewish educators. She is an artist who uses art as a medium for building community and social responsibility. She loves storytelling and has written several children's books and a collection of stories and poetry. She has also co-produced a documentary film. She is founder and CEO of Project S.N.A.P., which brings students, parents, and teachers together to create large-scale collaborative mosaic mural projects. Rubyan has extensive experience as an executive coach and business consultant with non-profit management, fundraising, board development, strategic planning, marketing and advertising, communications and team leadership. She has worked with the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield, Congregation B'nai Moshe in West Bloomfield and Congregation Beth Shalom in Oak Park among other Jewish organizations. Members of JCS are excited to have her warmth, energy, extensive experience in Jewish education, her enthusiasm for learning and passion for nurturing young people at their school. ■

A summer of smiles at Camp Raanana

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

Camp Raanana, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's outdoor summer day camp for children entering grades K-8, had an incredible summer this year. The camp experienced record enrollment numbers, with many sessions being at or near capacity. Camp Raanana always prides itself on its experienced and dedicated staff members, and this year's counselors and specialists were no exception. The camp was delighted to welcome some outstanding first time staff members, as well as many counselors returning for their fifth or sixth summer at camp. Plus, there was not a single rainy day this year that prevented the campers from going to the campsite at Independence Lake Park.

This summer, campers entering grades K-2 enjoyed swim lessons, arts and crafts, music, Judaics, nature exploration, sports, free swim, Shabbat celebrations, and weekly special events and field trips. Campers entering grades 3-5 participated in these camp activities and also got to choose an enriching specialty each week. This year's specialties included boating, digital photography, martial arts, drama, drumming, clay creations, "World of Sports," edible art, dance, magic, "Jazzy Jewelry," and "Silly Science." Finally, campers entering grades 6-8 participated in Camp Raanana's Pioneer Adventure Program. The Pioneer campers enjoyed exciting field trips and fun mitzvah projects each week, participated in activity sessions and Shabbat celebrations at camp, and joined the rest of camp for weekly special events and all-camp field trips.

This summer's all-camp field trips included visits to the Toledo Zoo, Summit on the Park Water Park, Northfork Farms, Greenfield Village, Howell Nature Center, Rolling Hills Water Park, Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, Splash Universe, and the Detroit Science Center. The field trips were the highlight of the week for many campers and were wonderful opportunities for campers of different ages to enjoy educational and fun activities together.

In addition to the weekly field trips, Camp Raanana offered a number of special events this summer. The first got all the campers singing and dancing as the Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan visited camp for Israel Day and performed at the JCC in the evening. Later in the summer, the campers showed off their team spirit during the Camp Raanana Maccabi Games, a day of color wars and silly relay races. For Messy Day at the end of the summer, the campers got themselves and their counselors full of frosting, syrup, whipped cream, and other sticky substances during a variety of very messy games.

Shabbat at the Lake, the camp's annual closing event, was especially moving and beautiful this year. All the camp families were invited to visit camp for a Shabbat dinner overlooking the lake, followed by performances by all the camper groups. The campers worked extremely hard on their performances and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. After the performances families were invited to cool off in the lake and experience the camp's wonderful waterfront.

Summer may be over, but there is an upcoming opportunity for campers to recapture the Camp Raanana spirit. On Sunday, September 13, a Camp Raanana reunion will be held at the JCC from noon-3 p.m. in conjunction with the JCC Apples and Honey celebration. Campers are invited to come enjoy special activities and have fun with their camp friends and counselors. More information about Camp Raanana will also be available at the event. ■

For questions about Camp Raanana, contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990.

2009-2010 afterschool programs at the JCC

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor has announced another year of afterschool programs, designed to provide the safety and convenience parents need and the fun and excitement children desire.

The JCC's Kids' Konnection afterschool program caters to students in kindergarten through second grade with nurturing staff, daily circle time, and supervised activities. The Kids' Club program is designed to meet the interests of third through fifth graders with designated homework time, separate hang-out spaces, and expanded activity choices. Both programs run from 3:20-6 p.m. daily. Parents interested in afterschool programs for 6th-8th graders should inquire about the JCC's "Helpers" program.

Both Kids' Konnection and Kids' Club offer flexible scheduling options, allowing parents to choose schedules from 2 to 5 days per week and also to utilize drop-in care for additional days. Participants receive discounts on JCC youth enrichment classes and priority enrollment for the JCC's School's Out, Snow Day, and Vacation Fun Days programs. Additional siblings enrolled in the JCC's afterschool programs receive a 10% discount, and employees of Jewish community organizations are also eligible for discounts. Scholarships are available for qualifying families.

Several afternoon transportation options are available for students who attend local elementary schools. Ann Arbor Public Schools provide free bus transportation to the JCC from Bryant, Pattengill, and Ann Arbor Open elementary schools. The JCC can also provide van transportation from some other elementary schools.

For more information about the JCC's afterschool programs, contact Youth Director Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990. Registrations will be accepted in the fall and throughout the school year.

WHATEVER YOUR WISHES

*we'll make it happen**

These days it's re-assuring to know that whatever your wishes, the picture perfect event is within reach at The Polo Fields Golf and Country Club. We are your premier choice for:

- Bar Mitzvahs
- Bat Mitzvahs
- Graduation Parties
- Bridal Showers
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Wedding Receptions
- Fund-raising Events
- Banquet Services
- Golf Outings

Please contact Peggy Bitondo, Catering Sales Director
at 734.998.1555 or email: pbitondo@polofields.org
visit us online at www.polofields.org

The Polo Fields Golf & C.C.

Located a half mile south of 1-94, less than 5 miles
west of downtown Ann Arbor, just off Zeeb Road.
Less than 30 minutes from Canton, Plymouth and Northville.

*Rates dependent upon number of guests, date, and dining preferences.

HDS welcomes new teachers

Carrie Fried Thorpe and Dina Shtull, special to the WJN

The Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor welcomes four new teachers to complete its teaching staff: Orit Steinmetz, gan (kindergarten) Hebrew teacher; Debbie Carbone, first grade general studies teacher; Leah Kessler, second grade general studies teacher; and Sima Brodsky, fourth and fifth grade Hebrew teacher.

Orit Steinmetz, the new gan Hebrew teacher, has been with the school for the past two years as an assistant in the first and gan classrooms. She also taught Hebrew at Beth Israel Congregation. In Israel, she taught Hebrew, Hebrew literature, and math to students in grades three through high school. Steinmetz has a degree in education from the Kibbutzim College of Education with an emphasis in elementary school education. The new first grade general studies teacher, Debbie Carbone, is moving to Ann Arbor from Hartford, Connecticut, with her husband and one-year-old son Jacob. Carbone has a master's degree in education from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with a focus in literacy. Carbone has seven years prior experience as an elementary school teacher. She taught for three years at a public school in West Hartford and four years at the Jewish Community Day School in Watertown, MA. While in Hartford, Carbone was the kindergarten team leader responsible for facilitating weekly meeting with colleagues. Leah Kessler, the new second grade general studies teacher, has been at HDS since 2007, as an assistant in the first and second grade classrooms, as a curriculum specialist, and as a substitute teacher. She also worked for the Saline Schools where she led art, math, and science activities for students in grades one–eight in their after-school program. Prior to coming to Ann Arbor, Kessler taught for Town School for Boys in San Francisco with a focus on Life Sciences for 5th and 6th grade. Kessler has a BA in biology from Carleton College and teaching credentials from the Bay Area Teacher Training Institute at San Francisco State University.

Orit Steinmetz

Sima Brodsky, the new fourth and fifth grade Hebrew teacher and the Benard L. Maas Hebrew Resource Specialist, comes to HDS via Project ODED, a new educational initiative sponsored by the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Israeli Ministry of Education which selects, trains and places Israeli educators in North American day schools. Brodsky was one of 19 teachers selected from over a hundred applicants for this program.

Sima Brodsky

In Israel, Brodsky taught physical education, and directed her school's sports days and school ceremonies. In addition to being a teacher, she coordinated a summer camp program, taught Hebrew to new immigrants, and planned activities for Arab and Jewish girls at a center for peace. Brodsky is originally from Bombay, India; she fondly remembers her Hebrew teacher in India who was an emissary from Israel. Ever since her family made aliya to Israel, Brodsky dreamed of becoming a Hebrew teacher in a foreign country. She will also be teaching at Beth Israel Congregation religious school. Brodsky is coming to Ann Arbor with her high school age son, Tom. Her older three children will remain in Israel. Brodsky's husband, Gershe, is already living in the United States, where he travels as part of his business.

The staff and faculty at the Hebrew Day School are very excited to welcome these new teachers to the school. For more information about the school and its upcoming open houses and school tours, call 971-4633 or check the school website www.hdsaa.org. ■

(L to R): Debbie Carbone, Leah Kessler

Camp Gan Israel 2009 a great success

Chana Kroll , special to the WJN

As faculty and staff at local schools were gearing up for the start of the new school year, staff and instructors at one of the area's popular youth programs were wrapping up an intensive summer of learning, creativity and summer fun. This year marked the 11th session of Camp Gan Israel, a summer camp founded by Ann Arbor Chabad House in 1998.

Since the first Camp Gan Israel opened in 1956 at Parksville, New York, Gan Israel has grown into a global network of both overnight and day camps with chapters in more than 40 countries. Many of today's programs are being directed by men and women who attended Gan Izzy in the early years, served as counselors as they became older, and then went on to start new chapters, Zweibel among them. As director of Camp Gan Israel Ann Arbor, she draws on her own experiences as a camper, counselor, and head counselor (and now 11 years as camp director) to strike the best balance between the different components of the Gan Israel program, and set the right pace for each age group.

Her dedication has paid off—as the camp has steadily grown. Local Jewish families say that the benefits of the experience last long after the summer ends.

"It is great to give kids the exposure to Jewish history and Jewish tradition that Gan Israel gives them," said Jackie S., whose 2 children both returned to Gan Israel Ann Arbor this summer. "They have such a strong, positive sense of identity from this camp."

The positive affect the camp has on Jewish identity is a draw for many families, but Zweibel wanted to build on other aspects of the Gan Israel program as well.

In January, Zweibel sat with staff and community members to develop new curricula for the summer. Drawing on their own experiences—and the experiences of thousands of other instructors and counselors at Gan Israel programs around the world, who report back to

one another through an extensive network and occasional workshops—the Ann Arbor committee came up with several new additions to their regular day camp.

This year, a Sports Camp and a Fine Arts program were added to the Gan Israel schedule—both led by well-respected professionals. The Sports Camp included classes with Gym America as well as martial arts classes with instructors from Quest Martial Arts and intensive sports program led by Coach Brian. The Fine Arts program featured lessons with Steve from Oz Music and a summer long dance program with Amanda.

Students in the Dance with Amada program showcased their new skills in a short recital at the weekly Shabbat party.

Parents and campers alike expressed excitement over how these new programs had turned out.

Along with the new classes were old favorites—familiar to any local family who has enrolled their children in Gan Israel over the years. Lar the Science Guy returned for another summer to demonstrate fun science experiments for the kids, and staff arranged several field trips to local spots such as Jeepers and Splash Universe.

Appreciation for the diversity of Ann Arbor as a whole was demonstrated on International Day, a day set aside for exploring the foods and some hints of the cultures of the many countries from which individuals in Ann Arbor and elsewhere in America originate. Each group of campers represented one country and prepared a meal from that country. The day culminated in an International Taste Fest with campers sharing with one another the foods of their 'homeland' for the day.

Throughout the summer, programs were anchored by a staff that continues to garner high praise from Ann Arbor parents.

"What has stood out to me over the years is the importance of staff-child interaction," says Zweibel, "without a genuinely warm, caring staff kids won't connect with what they are doing and they won't get anything out of it."

To strengthen the connections between kids and staff, and their families, Zweibel introduced a program called Good Night Gan Izzy. On a rotating basis, counselors visit campers at home in the evenings where they do an activity with the camper—design their own pillowcase. The program proved to be popular and served to strengthen the family-like atmosphere at Gan Israel, as did the addition of a "mitzvah note board" where students were able to post short notes, written by their parents, about good deeds they'd done at home. These "small touches'" linked home and camp, another aspect of why so many Ann Arbor parents and kids are already thinking about next summer.

One little girl was overheard at pick-up time on the last day of camp: "I am not leaving until you say that I can come back next year!"

Zwiebel and her staff will be happy to have her, and will no doubt have plenty of new surprises waiting. ■

Ann Arbor kids enjoy Camp Tavor summer

Emily Eisbruch, special to the WJN

During this beautiful Michigan summer, 31 children from the Ann Arbor area (ages 8 to 17) spent a few weeks at picturesque Camp Tavor. Located just two hours west of Ann Arbor, on lovely Lake Kaiser, near Three Rivers, Michigan, Camp Tavor has been a "home away from home" for Ann Arbor Jewish kids for many years.

What are some of the special activities that help to build the strong Jewish identity and warm friendships for which Tavor is known? Campers seem to be especially fond of the inclusive, relaxed atmosphere, the little animal farm and vegetable garden, and the Shabbat celebrations including songs and Israeli dance. Sports and recreation, crafts, outings, and Tikkun Olam projects in the local community are all also an important part of the experience.

Ann Arborite Yael Warshai was the Tavor staff member in charge of the educational component at Tavor this summer. Warshai explains, "Each summer, Camp Tavor embraces a certain theme to add extra meaning to our day to day activities." This year's theme, explains Warshai, was "intention." Warshai adds, "by constantly reflecting on, re-examining and re-evaluating the things we do and the values we hold, we create an 'intentional community' here at Tavor. "

And how did this summer's theme of intention play out with the campers themselves? According to 14-year-old Jeremy Simon, "The theme definitely made me think about the way I interact with people and set an example for the younger campers. It made me think about why I do the things I do and that my actions have consequences. For example, when I am tired and don't want to do *avodah* (work projects), but I know the younger kids are looking up to me, I think about why we do *avodah* and why it is important that we each have a part in keeping our community clean."

Jordon Siden, a 15-year old from Ann Arbor echoed these sentiments, "I keep noticing myself using the word 'intention' in conversation. I feel that it is totally relevant to my life and our lives here at camp. In my *kvutzah* (group), I take time to think about the kinds of relationships and interactions I want to have with people, and it has made me think about how I can have intentional and meaningful friendships outside of *machaneh* (camp) also."

What will next year's theme be at Tavor? The youth leadership has yet to decide, but each year the theme certainly adds a special flavor to the summer. In 2008, the theme of composting/reusing materials was quite a hit with all the kids. The year before that, "balance" was the theme that framed the summer. One thing is for sure, year after year, each camper returns to Ann Arbor with new friendships and a feeling of enrichment from the experience Tavor provides.

For more details, visit http://camptavor.org. For information on the year-round youth program right here in Ann Arbor and the monthly activities during the school year, contact Ron Sussman at 971-1147 or email ronsussman@aol.com. ■

Music Together class offered with Jewish enrichment

Chana Kroll , special to the WJN

A unique educational enrichment opportunity for preschoolers and toddlers will be offered this fall. Angela Schmidt, director of Hand in Hand Music, and Shternie Zweibel, of Chabad of Ann Arbor, will be facilitating the experience which will include a Music Together® class for children ages 0 to 5 and their adult caregivers followed by a Jewish enrichment class. This combined session will be held at My Urban Toddler, an indoor playspace at 7025 East Michigan Avenue in Saline.

The Music Together class will be taught by Schmidt, who has been the director of Hand in Hand Music for 11 years. The Music Together curriculum is internationally recognized and based on extensive research in the fields of child development and music education. The classes build on the natural aptitude and enthusiasm that all children have for music, engaging them in music-making activities at a young age.

A central part of the Music Together method is based on evidence that children at a very young age learn best from modeling. Classes are designed for parent participation. Parents will play an instrument, sing, and clap, together with their children. As a result, not only do children have a chance to learn from their parents, all of the participating families have a chance to bond with one another.

Following each weekly Music Together class, Zweibel will teach a Jewish enrichment component. Children will have the chance to explore Jewish themes such as tzedaka, and celebrating the holidays. The Jewish enrichment program will also include Jewish music, and children will be encouraged to do "homework"—doing a good deed at home and bringing in a note from a parent saying which good deed they did.

Both components will include teaching parents activities they can do with their children at home. In-class music activities each week will include: singing, rhythmic rhymes, movement, and instrument play.

Classes will meet on Mondays from 10:30–11:30 a.m. from September 21 through November 23 at the Learning Center at My Urban Toddler. The registration fee for the class includes the weekly Music Together classes and Jewish Enrichment class, an illustrated Music Together songbook, two professionally recorded Music Together CDs, a Music Together parent education DVD and weekly admission to My Urban Toddler, so parents can give their children a chance to explore the incredible indoor play areas both before and after class.

For more information regarding this program, visit the Hand in Hand Music website at www.HandinHandMT.com or call 429-3385. Requests for more information can also be directed to Shternie Zweibel at 994-3276, extension 15. ■

MUSIC TOGETHER®
THE JOY OF FAMILY MUSIC®

Ann Arbor and Nahalal teens join forces at JCC Maccabi Games in San Antonio

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

Each summer, the Ann Arbor JCC sends a delegation of teen athletes to participate in the JCC Maccabi Games, a week of Olympic-style events, competitions and community service projects. The 2009 delegation is special, but not simply because it traveled to historic San Antonio, Texas. This year, Ann Arbor and its Partnership 2000 (P2K) sister community, Moshav Nahalal, joined forces to send a total of eight teens to compete with over 600 Jewish athletes in swimming, bowling, dance and soccer.

Israeli athletes, Shlomit Aviezer (14), Lipaz Kozminski (14) and Atalia Mekler (16) and their chaperone, Dorit Mekler spent a week in Ann Arbor learning about the community, developing relationships with their teammates and other local teens, and training for their swimming competition. Ann Arbor athletes included Cassidy (16, dance) and Sasha (13, soccer) Moravy Penchansky, Noah Seel (13, soccer), Emma Share (15, dance), and Eitan Spivak (bowling). JCC Board President, Seth Penchansky led the delegation.

Shlomit, Lipaz and Atalia at the Tigers Game

The Maccabi Games typically include delegations representing the State of Israel. Since 2004, communities participating in the Jewish Agency's P2K project have included athletes from their partner communities in their Maccabi delegations. This was the first year Ann Arbor participated in this unique opportunity to foster connections between teen athletes in Ann Arbor and Nahalal. "After two years of working on the P2K Community-to-Community project, it was heartwarming and exhilarating to see the Ann Arbor teens and the Nahalal teens naturally come together as one team" said Eva Solomon, co-chair of the Ann Arbor/Nahalal Community-to-Community (C2C) committee. Cheryl Sugerman, C2C co-chair, concurred. "Just watching teens from two nations become one group has been a wonderful experience, I can only imagine how thrilling it must be to be a part of the delegation" said Sugerman.

During their stay in Ann Arbor, Shlomit, Lipaz and Atalia visited Camps Raanana and Gan Israel, toured and shopped downtown with local teens, and spent quality time with their host families. They even had time to enjoy Greenfield Village and a Detroit Tigers game. They all found their most memorable experiences in Ann Arbor were the times they spent with their new friends. Shlomit's mother, Ela shared that her daughter "was delighted to meet her 'box project' family and enjoyed the hospitality very much. Then she met a friend from the team with whom she had talked over facebook. You can see from the pictures that the girls are enjoying themselves." Ann Arbor teens reciprocated the positive feelings. Emilie Weisberg, 13, "really enjoyed spending time with the girls from Nahalal. I appreciated getting to learn more about Israel from them and look forward to being able to visit them when I have a chance to go to Israel."

The Maccabi games in San Antonio took place Sunday, August 9 through Thursday, August 14 and included a moving opening ceremony, cowboy dance party and plenty of Texas hospitality. The Ann Arbor/Nahalal delegation had great success; every member of the team returned with a medal. In swimming, Atalia Mekler earned two bronzes and a silver medal; Shlomit Aviezer took home two bronze medals and Lipaz Kozminski won a bronze. Emma Share and Cassidy Moravy-Penchansky earned two gold medals and a silver for their dancing duets; and Emma won silver for her solo dance. Eitan Spivak won gold in pairs bowling, and Noah Seel and Sasha Moravy-Penchansky helped their mixed-city soccer team win the bronze medal.

Ariel Freed, Emma Share, Emilie Weisberg, Shlomit Aviezer, Lipaz Kozminski, Atalia Mekler enjoy "kumsitz" campfire at the home of Emma Share

The Ann Arbor/Nahalal Partnership is an integral part of the Michigan/Central Galilee Partnership 2000 program led by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit. Cooperative programs are developed with communities in Michigan and those of Nazareth Illit, Migdal Ha'Emek and the municipality of Emek Yizrael (Jezreel Valley). Developing a closer relationship with Moshav Nahalal, a village in the Jezreel Valley, has allowed members of both communities to learn from and interact more closely with one another. Following the successful Celebrate Israel exhibit in May, Moshav Nahalal hosted over thirty visitors from Ann Arbor during the summer including members of Beth Israel Congregation, Senator Liz Brater, and students from Michigan State University. The joint Maccabi delegation is an example of the cooperative nature of the project and there are plans for future teen exchanges. Yair Hammer, Nahalal co-chair of the C2C committee reports, "in Nahalal there is a lot of excitement about the cooperative delegation. We are sure that next year, there will be even more interest in the Maccabi games. We are so fortunate that we have a sister community like Ann Arbor."

For more information about C2C or Nahalal or to see more pictures from the trip, visit www.jewishannarbor.org, visit the facebook group: Nahalal & Ann Arbor: Two Communities; One Family or contact Eileen Freed at 734-677-0100 or eileenfreed@jewishannarbor.org. ■

Return from Israel

Noa Gutterman, staff writer

Not to say that the brightly lit golden arch of McDonalds or my shiny blue American passport weren't welcoming signs of home, but I was not entirely pleased to be back in the U.S. After a sleepless 48 hours of final goodbyes and a 12 hour flight to Newark Airport where my four months abroad had begun, I was not happy waiting in line at passport control. My senses ached for the scorching sun of the Negev Desert, the sandy beaches of Tel Aviv, and my new home in Kibbutz Tzuba, a mere ten miles outside of Jerusalem. And as much as I tried to be pleasant and thankful that I was back in America, it just was not the same after my time in Israel. It seemed too easy that everyone spoke English, or that I didn't have to worry about the questionable food bought off street vendors, and whether I was going to regret eating it later.

Chowing down on chicken nuggets, milkshakes and French fries didn't give me the same pleasure it used to. Now, I wanted falafel. Or the smoothie of the day from the café tucked away on Sheinkin street in Tel Aviv, owned by the elderly man who recognized our broken Hebrew and smiled to himself each time we left his shop clutching our smoothies and fighting off the brain freeze. My life in America would never be the same.

However, something had also changed for the better. Now, I could see how very lucky I was to live in a country that had, for the most part, rid itself of racism and bigotry. A country that housed a democracy with only two parties. And while I appreciated the variety of Israeli political groups, I found simplicity in identifying with the Democratic party, and only having one other option if my choice was not satisfactory. A country that was the home of macaroni and cheese. The home of the Andy Warhol and Bruce Springsteen and Tom Hanks. The home of reality television and outlet malls and Trader Joe's.

As I reluctantly dragged my feet across the pavement of the streets of Ann Arbor one morning, I had a confusing realization. Which country was my home? Could I only have one? Nothing felt quite right in America, yet Israel seemed so distant and foreign. Over the course of my four months away, it seemed as though my home in America had just become a house on Belmont road, and Israel had quickly moved in to replace it. Was I an American Jew or a Jewish American? Did I need two passports to prove that I was a duel citizen? Yet, the future of Israel was and is uncertain; a thought that quickened my heart rate and set off a chain of worries about the country I now held close to my heart.

A month later, my future is no clearer. As of now, I plan on attending college in America, but what I will choose to do after is still a mystery to me. However, what has become clearer over the past month since my return, is the necessity of the Diaspora. The state of Israel could not and will not survive without our help. We are obliged to defend and support Israel, or risk the threat of losing the country that provides a home for all Jews. Although Israel is at some times an unstable country, it is also a country that provides safe refuge for the worldwide Jewry. Furthermore, support of Israel does not just mean picking up your life and moving to a country that is distant and unfamiliar. It means sending money and goods to Israel. Or supporting non-profit organizations that work for the betterment of a country that is partially based on ancient laws. It even includes advocating for Israel or simply defending Israel in debates or discussions. Without the Diaspora, Israel would become a distant country, lost in the harshness of the middle east. And while the golden arches of McDonalds and my mildly garish American passport still make me prickle with homesickness, I feel that I have found a temporary balance between the two countries I now call home. Maybe my romanticized identity card doesn't have to read American or Israeli. I can just be a Jew, sitting somewhere in the middle between the cobblestone streets of Kerrytown and the rolling Judean Hills. ■

Noa (right) and friends in Tel Aviv

JCC/ECC teachers win 2009 Krislov Award

Margi Brawer, special to the WJN

Two teachers from the JCC Early Childhood Center were named winners of the Evelyn Krislov Excellence Award at the JCC Annual Teacher Appreciation Dinner. The award was given to Michelle Paris and Carolyn McCombs, who each received a plaque and $500.

The Krislov Award was established in 2001 by Marvin Krislov, Amy Sheon and Joseph Krislov in memory of Marvin's mother, Evelyn Krislov. It is given to ECC teachers who show exemplary dedication to their work and demonstrate excellence in integrating Judaic curriculum in the classroom. Winners of this award introduce new ideas to the classroom, have a positive attitude, pursue extra non-required training courses and seminars, have good attendance both during school hours and at after school functions, and do things that are considered "above and beyond the call of duty."

Paris and McCombs are both long time teachers at the ECC and show extreme commitment in helping the JCC Early Childhood Center shine out among all child care centers.

Women taking reins of Jewish communal life in Europe

By Toby Axelrod

SOFIA, Bulgaria (JTA)—Hanna Lorer, 80, a leading member of this small Jewish community in the Balkans, had never met a female rabbi or cantor until this summer.

Several came to Sofia in June for a conference on European Jewish women organized by Bet Debora, a group that aims to empower Jewish women on the continent.

"It was the first time that I had any contact with women rabbis," Lorer said. "It was surprising and interesting."

Lorer said she was pleased to meet the rabbis at the conference. But in this culture steeped in tradition, many Jews still feel female rabbis are too radical an innovation.

In a rapidly changing Jewish Europe, however, the presence of Jewish women in leading communal roles is becoming more commonplace. Female rabbis have held positions in France, Poland, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Britain, Holland and Belarus, according to Rabbi Gesa Ederberg, the first female spiritual leader appointed to a pulpit in Berlin.

London's Leo Baeck College ordained eight liberal rabbis this summer, and six were women. England saw the appointment of its first female senior rabbi in 2004—Alexandra Wright of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue in St. John's Wood, London. And the new Jewish Institute of Cantorial Arts in Potsdam, Germany, is directed by a woman, Cantor Mimi Sheffer.

Charlotte Knobloch in Germany is an example of one of Europe's female Jewish leaders. She started out as president of the Munich Jewish community 24 years ago and now heads the country's main Jewish political organization, the Central Council of Jews in Germany.

Charlotte Knobloch

When colleagues first urged her to run for office, Knobloch said she hesitated.

"My answer was, 'You'd better ask the rabbi if it's OK,' " she told JTA.

It was the first and last time she sought such permission.

Berlin's Jewish community also now has its first woman president, Lala Suesskind.

There may not be droves of Jewish women in leadership roles in Europe, but today "the women who want it can make it," said Rabbi Elisa Klapheck, who co-founded Bet Debora 11 years ago in Berlin with Lara Daemmig and Rachel Herweg. Klapheck was just appointed to a pulpit in Frankfurt.

"Things have changed," but not significantly, said Alice Shalvi, founding chairwoman of the Israel Women's Network. Other than Knobloch, she said, "I don't know of anyone who has attained that kind of leadership position."

Jewish women in Europe still are playing catch up.

Many pioneers of Jewish egalitarianism fled Europe or were murdered during World War II, such as Regina Jonas of Berlin, who in 1935 became the first woman ever ordained as a rabbi. She died in Auschwitz.

While women's movements thrived in the United States, Britain and Israel, shattering the glass ceiling of gender limitations came more slowly to many Jewish communities in Europe.

In recent years, however, that change has picked up pace.

Michal Ben Ya'akov, a scholar in residence at the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute in Massachusetts, is studying the phenomenon. The study is not simply academic. Ben Ya'akov, who conducted her first fieldwork at the Bet Debora conference, hopes to find out what roles Jewish women are playing in Europe and to encourage them to be role models.

> ***Rather than juggling family life, career and Jewish activism all at once, women in Europe increasingly are doing those things sequentially.***

Barbara Lerner Spectre, founder of Paideia, the European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden, says there are many role models for European Jewish women.

Rather than juggling family life, career and Jewish activism all at once, women in Europe increasingly are doing those things sequentially, Spectre said, changing areas of focus along the way. It may be tough, she said, "But you can do it all, eventually."

Demographer Sergio DellaPergola of Jerusalem's Hebrew University says "institutional interventions" are needed to ensure that women play an equitable role in Jewish society.

Behind the scenes, however, women wield greater influence than men, DellaPergola told JTA. By bearing and raising children, women "have the main role in transmitting Jewish identity to the next generation," he said. But they still don't equal men in terms of recognition and power in communities.

Bet Debora might qualify as one such "institutional intervention." The organization, along with trying to empower Jewish women in Europe, aims to bridge gaps between tradition and the future, co-founder Daemmig said.

At the Sofia conference, cantors like Yalda Rebling of Berlin mingled with women like Roza Berger, who runs a local Rosh Chodesh Ladino singing group for Jewish women.

Berger and Lorer spontaneously sang an old Ladino favorite—"Adio Querida," farewell my love—for participants.

"It is necessary to preserve our traditions," Lorer said, referring to the Sephardic roots of Bulgarian Jewry, "because if not, it is 'Adio querida.' " ■

Tel Aviv, an architectural treasure

Roger Green, special to the WJN

Little known, but important and true. Tel Aviv contains the world's largest collection of modernist buildings in the International Style—residential, governmental and commercial buildings marked by geometric simplicity and characteristically painted white. Dating from the 1930s to the early days of Israeli statehood, these clean-lined, functional buildings so resoundingly merit acclaim that in 2003 UNESCO named the sprawling "White City" north of downtown Tel Aviv a World Cultural Heritage Site.

Filling Tel Aviv are more than 4,000 buildings in the unadorned International Style brought to Palestine by European-educated architects during the years of the British Mandate. While recently in the city, I visited many of those historic buildings, distinguished by flat roofs and smooth, plaster-covered walls of poured-in-place concrete. In the process I leaned a lot about Tel Aviv's embrace of avant-garde architecture, about how thoughtful designers adapted it to Mediterranean weather conditions, and about how 1930s modernism arguably manifests the communal social ideals cherished by the first waves of Jewish settlers.

It was quite an education.

Credit the rash of Tel Aviv buildings constructed in the 1930s to galloping population growth: from 2,000 inhabitants in 1920, to 50,000 in 1929, to 130,000 in 1936. Modernist architecture most correctly addressed the mushrooming city's practical needs, while also symbolizing its forward-looking goals. Designers of earlier Tel Aviv buildings in the so-called Eclectic Style of the 1920s had attempted with less success to synthesize a definitive Jewish building style, combining oriental and classical elements, overlaid with motifs such as menorahs and Stars of David.

Tel Aviv's growth owes as well to the master city plan devised in 1925 by Scottish urban planner Sir Patrick Geddes, a proponent of garden cities and a forerunner of the modern green movement. Geddes (1854-1932) believed that spatial form addressing ecological issues could significantly change social values and structure.

Following Geddes' directives, burgeoning Tel Aviv incorporated numerous public green spaces into its masonry fabric; main and secondary arteries were planted with trees and dotted with parks and landscaped squares. "A mosaic of white cubes surrounded by gardens" is how one poetic observer described Tel Aviv, whose countrified character mirrored popular visions of green, communal life.

Two neighborhoods in particular preserve functional International Style design: the area surrounding Rothschild Boulevard and the streets encircling Dizengoff Square. Both neighborhoods are troves of remarkably refined if stylistically somewhat discrepant buildings, representing different syntheses of imported knowledge and Jewish ideals.

Fashionable Rothschild Boulevard, constructed in 1910, originally was called Rehov HaAm or "Street of the People." A broad, tree-lined artery split by a landscaped promenade, Rothschild Boulevard was named for Baron Edmond James de Rothschild (1845-1934), a philanthropic French member of the banking family who strongly supported Zionism, generously financing Jewish settlements in Palestine.

Dizengoff Square, a more recent construction, is named for Zina Dizengoff, wife of Tel Aviv's first mayor Meir Dizengoff. The square is actually is a circular plaza — a roundabout where six streets intersect — ringed by curved buildings surrounding a central fountain.

At the time of its completion in 1934, landscaped Dizengoff Square reportedly was called "the Etoile of Tel Aviv." It was designed by a female architect, Gina Averbouch, then aged 25.

Rothschild Boulevard was created from literally nothing, on the site of a sand dune outside the ancient port city of Jaffa; there, in April 1909, representatives of 66 Jewish families met and divvied up building sites by lottery, using seashells. Within a year, Rothschild Boulevard was laid out, along with Herzl, Ahad Ha'am, Yehudi and Lilienblum streets. All were serviced by water systems, and 66 houses were built.

As noted, the '30s architecture crowding Rothschild Boulevard owes to the promulgation of modernist tenets by European-trained architects, not least émigrés fleeing Hitler. The transplanted architects had assimilated influences from diverse sources.

One was the Bauhaus – the German design school directed by Walter Gropius, from which undecorated functional architecture, characterized by open plans, asymmetrical facades and smooth, planar walls emerged. The global influence of Bauhaus-style modernism explains the sobriquet "International Style."

Influential too was the work of the Swiss/French architect and urban planner Charles-Edouard Jeanneret-Gris, known as Le Corbusier. From Le Corbusier, Tel Aviv architects adopted strategies appropriate to Mediterranean climes, not least smooth white walls.

1930s apartment building on Rothschild Boulevard

Cinema Hotel, Dizengoff Square

Another Corbusian strategy was use of pilotis, which are reinforced concrete stilts lifting the bulk of buildings off the ground. By providing structural support, pilotis allow for open floor plans articulated exteriorly by asymmetrical facades. The open plans – functional living units are designed from the inside out — accommodate rather than compromise residents' real-life needs, as would be the case behind symmetrical facades.

Other borrowings from Le Corbusier include flat roofs accommodating gardens, and concrete canopies called brise-soleils. The roof gardens compensate for green space consumed by buildings. (The Nazis disdained flat roofs and white walls as "Oriental," meaning Jewish.)

The brises-soleils shade windows and thus protect interiors from sun. Solar protection was critical in pre-air conditioned Tel Aviv, where to provide additional relief architects made windows smaller than was typical in Europe, often setting them deep into walls.

Raising buildings on pilotis also suited Tel Aviv's climate. That's because the elevated buildings capture cooling, westerly breezes from the sea. Another cooling device was cutting horizontal slits into the upper part of projecting, concrete balconies.

Finally, the use of modernist, poured concrete as a building material proved supremely apt, since in Palestine wood was scarce but sand plentiful. Critically too, Jewish settlers lacked training in the building trades, in particular stonemasonry.

Representative buildings include the residential block at 84 Rothschild Boulevard, the Engel House of 1933. Its cosmopolitan architect, Ze'ev Rechter had studied in Paris and knew the work of Le Corbusier. Unsurprisingly, the Engler House was the first building in Tel Aviv to rise on pilotis. The five-story structure is further distinguished by its influential, horizontal ribbons of deep-set windows.

Horizontality, it happens, is a defining feature of Tel Aviv's International Style buildings. Often, the quality is emphasized by canopied balconies as at 87 Rothschild Boulevard, designed by Karl Rubin in 1936. Typically, the only vertical element marking facades is a narrow window illuminating a stairwell – Israelis call such windows "thermometers" – as seen in the Magnet House at 93 Rothschild Boulevard, designed by architect Yuhuda Magidovich in 1934.

Sadly, the condition of many buildings on Rothschild Boulevard is far from pristine. Insensitive balcony enclosures and jutting air conditioners mar many facades, which often are riddled with bat droppings. The unfortunate Engler House today is bricked up at street level – a legacy from defenses against Italians in 1942 and Egyptians in 1948.

Further, graffiti also defaces many walls. "Tel Aviv imports every new idea, good and bad," said Daniel Rosenblum, leader of an informative walking tour of Rothschild Boulevard.

During the tour, Rosenblum also described how modernist design can be understood as reflecting some of the communal social ideals European leftists brought to Palestine. For example, pilotis have the effect of spatially linking buildings and streets – that is, of eliminating barriers

that normally separate public from private life.

The same facility marks balconies which, overlooking busy streets, foster interaction between private residents and pedestrian passers-by. Finally, architects conceived roof gardens as sites of communal leisure and work activities.

Rosenblum's perception of buildings as social transformers is vengefully romantic; it certainly gripped my imagination. But another knowledgeable Tel Avivian, Dani Goldsmith, strongly opposes Rosenblum's ideas about architecture and social change. "Who do you think lived in those Rothschild Boulevard buildings?," Goldsmith asked. "The capitalist elite," he snorted scornfully. "And when they entertained on the roof gardens, who did they invite? Their rich, elite friends."

The disagreement underscores the fallacy of black-and-white thinking, and the reputation Israelis have as being opinionated. But Goldsmith understands Tel Aviv and its history, not least that of Dizengoff Square.

Goldsmith owns and operates the square's historic Cinema Hotel, a boutique operation housed in a movie theater his grandparents, Moses and Esther Nathaniel, opened in 1939. Originally called the Esther Cinema, the 1,000-seat facility was for many years Tel Aviv's premier movie house, boasting Palestine's first central air-conditioning system.

The hotel's modernist design, like that of the other original buildings surrounding Dizengoff Square, differs from that seen on Rothschild Boulevard by virtue of introducing sensuous curves. The buildings' white, concrete facades trace the circumference of the square and are lined by curved balconies that unify the encircling structures visually.

The introduction of curves owes to the influence wielded in Palestine by German architect Erich Mendelsohn, who emigrated to Jerusalem in 1935. There, he created buildings for the Hebrew University and Weizmann Institute of Science before emigrating to the United States in 1941.

In Germany, Mendelsohn achieved fame by introducing sensuous, organic lines and shapes to characteristically rectilinear modernist buildings. The Esther Cinema, designed by Ukranian-born architect Yehuda Magidovitch (designer of the earlier Magnet House on Rothschild Boulevard), continued Mendelsohn's approach.

Significantly, from the point of view of Jewish tradition, the spirited, organic character of Mendelsohn's and Magidovitch's designs can be understood as deriving from religious teachings. According to architectural critic Catherine Weill-Rochant, the functioning of the human body and indeed of all living things is considered perfection itself — the product of the Creator. Thus, curviform buildings matching the body and its functions equate with snail shells, earlobes and other curved embodiments of life, representing supreme rationality.

The 82-room Cinema Hotel, remodeled and refurbished by architect Arieh Debilanski, continues much of the Esther Cinema's original design. The smooth exterior is spanking white, while the original, lofty lobby with its spiral staircase and chandeliers has been preserved. Much of the remaining décor, including vintage projectors, posters and circuit boards, constitutes a self-conscious but engaging post-modern pastiche.

Other noteworthy buildings near Dizengoff Square include the Healthcare Center at 8 Beilinson Street and Chen Cinema at 14 Ben Ami Street. The Healthcare Center, showing a curved façade tracing the square's contour, dates from 1939 and was designed by Joseph Neufeld, who had worked for Erich Mendelsohn in Berlin. The Chen Cinema dates from the 1950s but continues the curviform modernism distinguishing Mendelsohn's oeuvre.

Another nearby project, at 35 Frishman Street, is the complex known as the Hod Residences — a block of workers' flats and cooperative facilities designed by Arieh Sharon in 1934. Rectilinear rather than organically curved, the Hod Residences continue functionalist lessons Sharon learned as a Bauhaus student. A grid of small, projecting balconies patterning one of the Hod Residences' facades repeats that seen at the 1925 Bauhaus building, designed by Walter Gropius.

While many buildings surrounding Dizengoff Square preserve Tel Aviv's International Style legacy, the square itself has suffered from remodeling undertaken by municipal leaders in 1978. To ease traffic congestion, the square was raised several feet, allowing vehicles pass beneath, with pedestrian access via ramps and stairs. The elevated plaza, encircling a kinetic fountain by Israeli artist Agam, is not landscaped but paved.

Physically cumbersome, the split-level plaza blocks vistas and is unwelcoming in its heat-catching stoniness. Reportedly, many Tel Avivians object to the re-design, and have pressured to see it reversed.

Like Rothschild Boulevard, Dizengoff Square has seen the utopian visions of its creators compromised by unforeseen circumstances. Yet in both locales, original architecture powerfully evokes the heroic past. Tel Aviv's "White City" condenses the inspiring best of Israeli ideals. The many International Style buildings filling the city are landmarks not be missed. ■

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Access www.whitecity.co.il. In Tel Aviv, visit the Bauhaus-Center at Dizengoff 155 and exhibits at the Shalom Tower, Ahad Ha'Am 9.

Our world headquarters? 5th and Washington.

We're a local bank through and through, right down to the whereabouts of our HQ. From where we come up with the best products and services to help you, like a strong local bank should. 734-662-1600 or boaa.com. How can we help you?

Bank helps

Member FDIC

Woman SafeHealth

Happy New Year!

We welcome women and girls of every age and ability, size, shape, color and sexuality, from all social, spiritual and cultural backgrounds.

We provide a safe, family-friendly environment in which you can explore, define and receive Gynecology and WomanCare health services, including psychological care and well-care.

We welcome all women, including those who feel unwelcome in other medical settings and those who have experienced physical and/or sexual violence or harassment.

Elizabeth Shadigian, MD
Board Certified OB/GYN
Gynecology and WomanCare
Newborn Circumcisions

Additional Services: Psychology
Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
Therapeutic Massage–Self Care Room

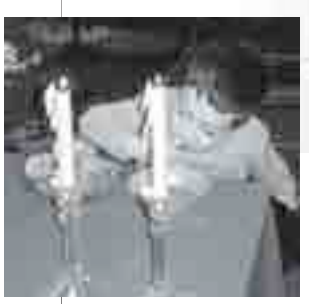
Our Guiding Principles
I welcome you – I listen to you – I believe you
I protect your privacy – I am accountable to you – I respect You

Welcoming New Clients

2340 East Stadium Boulevard, Suite 8 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 Tel 734-477-5100

www.womansafehealth.com

THE JEWISH CULTURAL SOCIETY
A SECULAR HUMANISTIC COMMUNITY



Sunday School
B'nai Mitzvah Program
Adult Programming
Shabbat Activities
Holiday Celebrations
Life Cycle Events

LOOKING FOR A HOME FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS?

The Jewish Cultural Society celebrates Jewish holidays and festivals with family-oriented observances.

Childcare is provided.

Rosh Hashanah……Sept. 18 7:00pm at the JCC*
Tashlich……Sept. 19 12:00pm at Island Park
Kol Nidre……Sept. 27 7:00pm at the JCC
Yom Kippur……Sept. 28 2:00pm at the JCC
Break-The-Fast……Sept. 28 6:30pm at the JCC
Potluck

For ticket information, contact: jcs@jccfed.org

*Jewish Community Center

The Jewish Cultural Society
2935 Birch Hollow Drive - Ann Arbor, MI
www.jewishculturalsociety.org
734/975.9872

News Analysis

Facts, fiction and fury in the battle of human rights groups vs. Israel

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The fighting in Gaza ended months ago, but the fight over the war rages on between Israel and NGOs.

NGOs have been issuing reports accusing Israeli of war crimes. In response, the Israeli army recently released a 163-page, 460-point account seeking to rebut such claims and discredit those making them.

At issue is the three-week Israeli invasion of Gaza starting in December 2008, launched in response to thousands of Palestinian rocket attacks against civilian targets in the south of Israel. Approximately 1,300 Palestinians were killed in the fighting, many of them militant fighters associated with Hamas, the Palestinian group in control of Gaza. But hundreds of Palestinian civilians are also believed to have been killed.

Thirteen Israelis were killed, including several civilians. Hamas rockets during the war reached as far as the Israeli cities of Yavneh, Beersheva and Kiryat Gat.

Some of the arguments between Israel and the NGOs revolve around alternating versions of the facts of the war, others address theories of the laws of war, and still others lunge with ferocity at the very legitimacy of one side or the other to even make an argument.

The stakes are high — as high as the threat of charges against Israeli officers and an effort by some Israeli officials to use the law as a weapon to limit international funding of human rights groups.

From the outset, the Israeli report cites an array of international law readings to show that Israel's war was just. It also takes aim at what it describes as the tendency of some critics to rush to draw conclusions of national guilt from scattered evidence. "Often," the Israeli report stated, "these leaps of logic bypass the most basic steps, such as identification of the specific legal obligation at issue and explanation of how it was violated."

To buttress its case, the Israeli army paper cited a wealth of recommended practice from U.S., British and Dutch military manuals, as well as rulings concerning the NATO action against Yugoslavia in Kosovo in 1999; the goal was to establish that there is a legally tolerable threshold of civilian death, particularly in cases of urban warfare.

At times, the Israeli report devolves into petty sniping at critics. Meanwhile, in recent weeks, top Israeli officials smear critics with ancient guilt-by-association accusations.

It's not much prettier on the human rights side: Reconstructions of the horrific death of civilians replete with painstakingly gathered evidence are coupled with bewildering omissions of context and blended into a package that assumes an inherent Israeli immorality.

The Israeli report repeatedly expressed frustration with efforts to turn criticism of individual officers and soldiers into a wholesale indictment of Israel's military establishment and the decision to resort to military force.

It's a pattern that is in evidence in three successive reports published by Human Rights Watch, perhaps the most prominent of the groups engaged by the government since the end of the war. One in March dealt with the use of white phosphorous; another in June dealt with high-precision missiles fired from pilotless drones; the most recent, earlier this month, deals with the killings of individuals bearing white flags.

Only the first report, on the use of phosphorous, chronicles what could be described as an alleged pattern of abuse.

The other two reports from Human Rights Watch focus on a relatively small number of cases: six instances of Israeli drones allegedly hitting civilian targets isolated from fighting and seven shootings resulting in 11 deaths. Still, even in those reports, Human Rights Watch uses language suggesting pervasive violations.

The HRW reports fail to assess evidence — including videos of Israeli forces holding their fire because of the presence of civilians — that Israel has provided to show that such incidents were the exception to the rule; they fail to examine what measures Israel has taken to prevent civilian deaths, which would be pertinent in examining any claim of war crimes.

Israeli officials are also guilty of omissions. The army report cites tonnage of food and medical equipment allowed into Gaza during the operation for humanitarian relief; it does not, however, translate these raw figures into proportions and fails to address claims by an array of groups — including Human Rights Watch — that Israel used humanitarian relief as leverage, and the result has been malnutrition and want.

Similarly, in describing the lead up to the war, the Israeli army provides a persuasive, blow-by-blow account of the intensification of indiscriminate rocket fire that led it to launch its invasion; but it omits any mention of the three-year siege Israel has imposed on Gaza, or that Hamas rulers in Gaza used the siege as a pretext for the rocket fire. In one line, the Israeli report states that Gaza is free of occupation, but fails to note that Israel continues to control all but one point of entry into the area.

One of the more bizarre omissions in the Israeli army report is how it deals with the deaths of 42 police cadets in a missile strike in the first days of fighting. Human rights groups allege that the police were not a legitimate target; they were recruits, drawn from the massive ranks of Gaza's unemployed, who were "at rest" at a graduation ceremony. Moreover, they were supposedly slated for non-combat patrol roles.

The Israeli army report does not mention the strike at all, or the deaths. Instead, it spends five pages generally justifying attacks on police, and noting that in some cases terrorists have doubled as police — although groups, including B'Tselem, have suggested that in the matter of the cadets, this assertion was questionable at best. Two high-ranking Hamas security officials present at the ceremony were also slain in the attack, one of at least 30 strikes on police stations on Dec. 28, the second day of the war.

Israeli spokesmen also repeatedly question the reliability of the human rights reports, saying witnesses must be compromised by fear of Hamas retaliation. "Human Rights Watch is relying on testimony from people who are not free to speak out against the Hamas regime," Mark Regev, the prime minister's spokesman, told the BBC on Aug. 13. In fact, HRW attempts to get witnesses alone, and corroborates their accounts with medical examinations and forensic evidence.

continued on page 22

Most Jewish Dems on board with Obama

By Eric Fingerhut

WASHINGTON (JTA)—A new poll shows that 92 percent of Jewish Democrats approve of President Obama's job performance.

The survey, based on calls July 22-24 to 500 self-identified Jewish Democrats, was commissioned by the Traditional Values Coalition, a conservative lobbying organization claiming to represent 43,000 churches. It was conducted by Global Marketing Research Services and has a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percent.

Along with the nearly unanimous approval of President Obama's efforts, the poll found that 58 percent of the respondents said he was "doing a good job of promoting peace in the Middle East" compared to 16 percent who disagreed. Asked whether the president was being "too tough on Israel," just 18 percent said yes and 55 percent said no.

The survey suggests that despite the Obama administration's repeated calls for an Israeli settlement freeze, support for the president among American Jews remains high. But the Traditional Values Coalition and the husband-wife team of political consultants Dick Morris and Eileen McGann have cited several of the survey's other findings in an effort to argue that the results point to a potential rift between the president and Jewish supporters.

"Support among Jewish Americans is a mile wide, but when specific issues about Israel's defense are raised it is about halved and looks 'an inch deep,'" the coalition's founder and chairman, the Rev. Louis Sheldon, said.

Sheldon, as well as Morris and McGann in a column for the New York Post, noted that only 20 percent of respondents agreed with what the survey defined as Obama's view that "if Israel could settle its dispute with the Palestinian refugees and give them a nation of their own, that the Arabs would live in peace with Israel." Fifty-two percent opted for the view that "the Arabs will never live in peace with Israel and that giving them a nation of their own will just make them stronger."

Similarly, they pointed to a question in which Obama is described as saying it is "very important that Israel not expand its settlements on the West Bank so as not to alienate the Palestinians" and told that "Israel says it should be allowed to build new homes in existing settlements but not to start new ones." Respondents again chose the option not associated with Obama, this time by a 52-37 percent margin.

In both cases, Obama supporters say the survey oversimplified the president's position. "Based on the phraseology of the questions, they are misrepresenting the position of the Israeli government and the Obama administration," said David Harris, president of the National Jewish Democratic Council, in an interview with The Jerusalem Post. "Whenever anyone shows me a poll from any interested party, from one side or another, I have questions about the veracity of that poll," he said.

Sheldon also pointed to the issue of Iran. Asked whether there is "any real chance that Iran could be stopped from developing a bomb without an Israeli attack," 38 percent said yes and 25 percent said no—38 percent were unsure. Still, 62 percent said they opposed an Israeli bombing strike against Iran to stop the Islamic Republic from developing nuclear weapons, with only 15 percent in favor. About 40 percent of respondents said they thought the president "would support Israel if it attacked Iran," while 45 percent said they weren't sure.

The question that showed perhaps the most disagreement with Obama also was hypothetical: "If President Obama told Israel not to attack Iran but offered no real assurance that he could stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons, would you support or oppose Obama's decision?"

Just 26 percent backed Obama's decision in that scenario, while 40 percent opposed it and 34 percent were "not sure."

In his statement, Sheldon said the poll was done "to better understand attitudes in the American Jewish community as the threat to Israel increases and radical Islam rises throughout the world." Also, in an interview with JTA, the organization's spokesman, Jim Lafferty, said the values council was curious to see whether the Jewish electorate "sides with Mr. Obama or Mr. Netanyahu." ■

Among Jewish groups, only GOPers slamming Dems' health care plans

by Rachel Tepper

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Even as polls and heated rhetoric suggest opposition to Democratic health care reforms is mounting, Jewish organizational support appears to be holding steady.

Only one group—the Republican Jewish Coalition—is voicing opposition. The RJC has been urging its members to oppose Democrat-backed health care legislation, sending out an action alert last week warning that the measures, which the group dubs "Obamacare," will result in massive spending and debt, widespread loss of jobs and healthcare coverage. In its alert, the RJC warned that Obama's plan will result in a "government takeover of health care."

However vigorous RJC's opposition, it appears to represent the lone voice among Jewish organizations speaking out against Obama's plan. Liberal groups, including the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and the National Jewish Democratic Council, have been staunch supporters of health care reform. Both have taken to the Internet in recent days, creating Web sites advocating comprehensive health care reform.

The NJDC launched RabbisForHealthCare.org, a site featuring a sign-on letter to Congress asking rabbis to lend their support to health care reform. The RAC started JewsForHealthCareReform.org, a nondenominational Web site featuring fact sheets on the health care system, Jewish texts on health care mandates and action alerts containing pre-written letters to Congress in support of reform.

"For the sake of our democracy, and for the sake of a health care system that is so clearly dysfunctional, we cannot, we dare not, stand on the sidelines," Rabbi David Saperstein, the RAC's director, said in a statement surrounding the debate around health care reform. "It is time to get in the game, to reclaim the agenda and to demonstrate that concerned Americans will not be cowed."

Several other prominent nonpartisan Jewish organizations, including the United Jewish Communities and the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, have come out for universal health care and expressed support of a public insurance option advocated by the Obama administration and many congressional Democrats.

Both the UJC, the North American arm of the network of local Jewish charitable federations, and JCPA, a coalition of the major synagogue movements, national Jewish organizations and scores of local communities, are backing several programs they believe will benefit the growing numbers of Jewish seniors.

The JCPA and UJC have focused their support on a voluntary program outlined by the CLASS (Community Living Assistant Services and Supports) Act, which would accommodate long-term health care needs for adults via a government-run disability insurance system. CLASS is included in the reform legislation sponsored by U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), but not in other health reform bills currently in the Senate and House of Representatives.

The UJC and JCPA organizations have partnered in the fight for health care, and together in June sent out a Healthcare Reform Action Toolkit with talking points and sample letters to Congress.

Though the Republican Jewish Coalition has not directly criticized other Jewish organizations by name, its action alert last week included a sample letter to Congress asking legislators to be wary of organizations "purporting to speak for Jewish Americans."

Mark Pelavin, associate director of the Reform movement's action center, downplayed the suggestion of any real schism in the Jewish community over health care.

Pelavin stressed that despite claims to the contrary, there is "a strong consensus in the Jewish community that we need to fix the health care system." ■

OP ED: Cut the clamor for desperately needed health care reforms

By Rachel Goldberg, director of aging policy for B'nai B'rith International

WASHINGTON (JTA)—There's a lot of noise about health care—wildly false claims, meetings being disrupted, shrill voices shouting down legislators. Amid the din, real ideas and concerns are getting lost. It's easy and lazy to criticize something. What's difficult and bold is to recognize that a critically important part of our country's infrastructure is severely broken and come up with a plan to fix it.

The premise of many health reform naysayers is that the system isn't bad now, but it will be if we "reform" it. The next part of that theory is that what Canada and England have creates problems that do not exist in the health care utopia we currently occupy. (Incidentally, none of the congressional proposals would adopt their systems.)

Even assuming the initial premise is true—and it's not unless you are wealthy and lucky—we still know the next parts are demonstrably untrue. If we do nothing, employer-based coverage will continue to erode, even as our unstable job market means more people are losing access to employer plans. And when people lose or switch jobs, often they are unable to acquire coverage in the private market.

That can mean long periods without coverage, or with costly catastrophic coverage, and dangerous Catch-22 provisions down the line: You can't get coverage if you didn't have coverage in the past—that pesky pre-existing condition exclusion.

Particularly offensive are attempts by opponents to convince older people that reform proposals would steal their benefits or destroy Medicare. Many of the Medicare "cuts" are delivery system reforms that aging advocates have been urging. We actually could see improvements to the Medicare program if reform occurs—changes that won't happen otherwise.

Seniors are an important constituency because they know the importance of health care and care about their children and grandchildren. Using fear to turn them against reform is reprehensible. Also outrageous: Raising the specter of Nazis to promote the absurdist scare tactics about fictional death panels. too.

The U.S. health care system is broken. In the richest nation in the world, about 47 million Americans have no health insurance. Millions of Americans are underinsured, unable to afford co-pays or prescriptions, or even are forced into bankruptcy by uncovered expenses (medical costs are the biggest single cause of bankruptcy in the United States).

The numbers of people who don't visit doctors or fill prescriptions because they are underinsured is rising. Meanwhile, the traveling clinics created to serve disease-ravaged parts of the developing world now also visit underserved communities in poor and rural parts of the United States. People travel many miles and wait countless hours for those services.

In the face of this crisis, some have chosen venom, demagoguery and misinformation over real dialogue – jeopardizing the chance to make life better for millions. A better health care system, we should not forget, would provide real security for everyone – even those who like whatever arrangement they have now.

As a human rights organization, B'nai B'rith is dedicated to health care for all. We have not yet endorsed any piece of legislation – we see problems, as well as real promise, in each of them. Legislators are working hard to do more than stake out ideological and political territory.

At the most basic level, health care coverage needs to be comprehensive, affordable and secure. It must ensure that people can keep the coverage they like and acquire coverage they can afford. Realistic health care reform must address long-term services and be both politically feasible and financially fair.

A reform plan should include provisions for the high costs of prescription drugs and long-term care issues. Our population is aging and the latter's costs have the potential to further erode our current system.

Americans, regardless of their opinion or knowledge base, obviously are passionate about health care: Just watch any town hall meeting with members of Congress or listen to callers on talk radio. Health issues can serve as the great leveler of our society. Everyone gets sick and needs medical attention. It's time for a better system.

There are real proposals on the table that could expand coverage. Will everyone like every element of the proposals? Of course not. But if we can quiet the shouting and stay in touch with the reality that demands we do something, we have an opportunity to work together to reach an effective compromise.

That compromise could improve, and even save, millions of lives and deliver the human right of health security to a country in desperate need.

Oren navigates waters among Israel, U.S. government and American Jews

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Tweeted, a diplomat's job would look something like this: Explain home abroad, explain abroad home.

In recent weeks, it's seemed as if the job description for Israeli envoys would encroach on the 140-character limit: Explain home abroad, explain abroad home, explain Jews abroad home, explain home to Jews abroad, explain, explain, explain.

Michael Oren, the new Israeli ambassador to Washington, has had a busy six weeks, and he acknowledges that some of his difficulties have had to do with a debate within his government about whether to even engage with liberal American Jews.

"There is a debate, I won't say there isn't," Oren said.

He also made clear which side he is on: "I am committed to reaching out to several groups, Jewish and non-Jewish, that I feel have drifted away from Israel," he said. "It's important we reach out and try and bring them back."

Oren's criterion: Groups must be committed to Israel's right to "exist as a free and Jewish state."

Reports have emerged that some influential officials around Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu favor dealing only with organizations sympathetic to the government's line on settlements and peace-making. Others counsel engagement with the community's broad spectrum, with a focus on what unites Israel and the Jews.

Oren would not confirm reports that he has told friends and colleagues that he especially wants to engage Jewish groups widely viewed as being on the liberal end of the Jewish political spectrum such as J Street, or that in general he wants to reach out to forces on the American left. In fact, he would not utter the word "progressive."

Such an explicit recommendation of engagement with progressives, coupled with a warning that Israel's posture was eroding U.S. Jewish support, earned the consul general in Boston, Nadav Tamir, a formal reprimand last week when his memo was leaked.

Oren, 54, makes it clear such an outcome is unlikely in his case. He is a historian by training and he is fresh to diplomacy, but already he is committed to professionalism.

"It's like going from free verse to writing rhymed haiku" is how Oren described his transition from opinionated historian to diplomat.

Still, Oren conveys real joy in his job. He likes recounting how as a 15-year-old from New Jersey, he was part of a youth group that met then-ambassador Yitzhak Rabin in Washington. Oren recalls telling himself that one day he'd love to be Israel's top envoy to the United States.

Ambassador Michael Oren

Meeting last week with journalists from the Jewish media, Oren would not be drawn into comment on his pre-appointment writings in which he favored unilateral withdrawal from Gaza — a position directly at odds with that of Netanyahu, who has described its effects there as disastrous.

"My opinions I had before I came into this job are irrelevant now," he said.

It can't make his job any easier that much of the leaking about U.S.-Israel tensions — and tensions between Israel and some U.S. Jews — appears to be emanating from Oren's own government. (He won't comment, saying he doesn't know the provenance of the leaks.)

Oren found himself scrambling last month to put out such a fire: Ha'aretz had reported that Netanyahu was prone to describe Rahm Emanuel, President Obama's chief of staff, and David Axelrod, the president's top political adviser, as "self-hating Jews."

"Here's an unattributed flying quote," Oren said, shaking his head. Netanyahu was "furious" and asked Oren to reach out to Emanuel and Axelrod and reassure them that the prime minister had never said those words. And yet the claim resurfaced again and again—twice on the op-ed page of The New York Times.

"It's like the end of 'Fatal Attraction,' " Oren said. "It keeps coming back."

Oren acknowledged that Israel should have been more aggressive in countering the notion in the press. He added that the embassy is, along with the U.S. State Department, more proactive in countering misimpressions.

"We are together working to dispel any attempt to fabricate any sense of a crisis," Oren said.

A State Department spokesman did not return a call from JTA.

For instance, it has been reported that Oren was twice "summoned" to the State Department to discuss Jewish settlements in Arab neighborhoods in Jerusalem.

Oren insisted that he was never "summoned," an invitation that implies a crisis. The first conversation, he said, took place during a courtesy call that covered a range of issues. The second was a "soft-spoken" phone call from Jeffrey Feltman, who runs the Near East desk.

Oren says everyone at the Foreign Ministry predicted a hard time for him, from its upper reaches "to the guy who signed off on my cell phone."

"I came expecting significant tensions, if not a crisis," he said. "By and large it's business as usual, if not better than usual."

Obama and Netanyahu get along "like two intellectual men educated in Cambridge, Mass.," a reference to the leaders' respective stints at Harvard and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Their last conversation, Oren said, suggested two men who had just had a beer. "There was an ease with one another," he said.

Israel is especially relieved that the United States has toughened its posture on Iran, moving up a review of its engagement policy from December to September.

"Iran was a potential for disagreement," he said. "It's not now."

Appearing Sunday on CNN's "Fareed Zakaria GPS," Oren dismissed claims that Israel is planning to strike Iran, a reassurance that was aimed as much at the Obama administration as it was to Sunday talk show viewers.

"We are far from even contemplating such things right now," he said on CNN. "The government of Israel has supported President Obama in his approach to Iran, initially the engagement, the outreach to Iran."

The Iran issue nonetheless begs a question: Given that Israel for nearly two decades has named Iran as its gravest potential threat, why would its government complicate a relationship with a sympathetic White House by not doing more to avoid friction with the administration over settlements and peace talks with the Palestinians?

Israel, Oren answered, must be "mindful of the basic needs of our citizens and the security of the state as a whole. You don't want to railroad through a Palestinian state."

Furthermore, he said, advancing the efforts to shut down Iran's suspected nuclear program was not incompatible with disagreements over settlement policy. Oren wanted to end the interview with a Rosh Hashanah message of Jewish unity and a looking forward to peace; he eked it out as if he was still testing the waters of this diplomacy business.

Oren was late for his next appointment, but when a reporter managed to ask a final question about what he thought of predictions of the death of Zionism, the envoy sat back down and became animated. It was then that the diplomat and historian merged, and Oren made a passionate case for why Zionism is still thriving.

"The 'death of Zionism' is demonstrably untrue," he said. "More people speak Hebrew than Danish, Israel publishes more poetry per capita than any other country, it's a global leader in high tech and biotech, it can field one of the world's most proficient and moral armies—and it has great rock music." ■

Facts, continued from page 20

Israeli government spokesman, moreover, do not account for the fear of retaliation — albeit of a less lethal kind, involving social ostracization — when they dismiss accounts of atrocities compiled from soldiers by groups such as Breaking the Silence.

Then there are the examples where facts simply diverge: Israel says it used white phosphorous as an obscurant when it faced Hamas anti-tank forces; human rights groups have alleged that the presence, in some cases, of armed forces was minimal and did not justify the use of the phosphorous, which upon skin contact may maim and kill. Israel says the number of civilians killed numbered in the low hundreds; human rights groups place it at closer to 1,000.

Some divergences have to do with the perspective of the claimant. The Israeli army report says warnings to civilians to leave an area were as precise as they could be without betraying tactics and putting soldiers in danger; Human Rights Watch says the warnings, while welcome, were often too generalized and even confusing.

Such differences might have been addressed by dialogue and an exchange of information that would observe limits aimed at preserving Israeli tactical secrecy. Israeli officers, for instance, have said that they have names to attach to fatalities that show that the vast majority were combatants; but they have not provided these to human rights groups.

Human rights groups have constantly pressed Israeli authorities to address specific claims, and have been brushed off. Yet the release of information that at least 13 incidents were under criminal investigation prior to the July 29 publication date of the military's report might have gone some way toward refuting claims that Israel was cavalier about abuse allegations.

Instead, Israeli officials have devolved into name-calling, backed by an array of pro-Israel NGOs and lobbying groups that distribute — sometimes anonymously — "backgrounders" that attempt through sometimes tenuous links to discredit the human rights groups. The foreign ministry recently distributed material implicating HRW editor Joe Stork with disseminating radical, anti-Israel and pro-terrorist material in the 1970s; it was an odd volley from the office of a minister, Avigdor Lieberman, who says police investigations of criminal conduct and a youthful flirtation with the racist Kach movement should not bear on his current diplomacy.

More substantively, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government is now seeking ways to legally cut off foreign government funding for Israeli human rights NGOs.

The human rights groups are not above using the law to make an exception of Israel; HRW frequently calls for international investigations, saying that Israel has repeatedly failed "to conduct credible investigations into alleged violations of the laws of war."

The problem with such calls is that Israel believes such international mechanisms cannot be trusted because they are wrapped into the United Nations — a worry Human Rights Watch admits is credible. Moreover, left unsaid is the failure generally among Western democracies to dig too deep when human rights abuses are at hand. The Obama administration reportedly is considering a strategy for prosecuting individuals who carried out torture, but not those who ordered it.

Israeli army spokesmen say it is fairer to note what Israel is doing to prevent the recurrence of abuses, citing as an example the introduction of the ultra-precise missiles. ■

Apples and Honey 2009

Sunday, September 13
12:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the JCC

Come Join Us!

Admission is Free!

FESTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Jewish Organization Displays
- Special Welcome to Ann Arbor Newcomers
- ECC Holiday Bake Sale
- Dip Apples and Honey
- Lunch Available for Purchase
- Vendor Displays
- Camp Raanana Reunion

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

- Face Painting
- Inflatable Slides and Jumpers
- Clowns
- Hands on Judaic Activities for All Ages
- Make Your Own Shofar
- Challah Braiding
- Exciting Train Ride

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER ANN ARBOR

Advance reservations are required.
To RSVP or for more information call 734-971-0990.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE BENARD L. MAAS FOUNDATION

Sunday, September 6th
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Beth Israel Congregation
2000 Washtenaw Ave.

Beth Israel 2009 FUN FAIR

Free activities and open to the community

- Games & Activities for All Ages
- Wii Rock Band
- Bingo
- Israeli Dancing
- Cup Cake Walk
- Bounce House
- Free Poker Tournament
- Soccer Skills Challenge
- Plant a Seed
- Free snow cones
- Mahjong (bring own sets)
- Juggling Session
- Shofar Blowing Instruction
- Lawn Relays
- Face Painting
- Caricature Artist
- *Kosher hot dogs and veggie dogs for sale*

For more information call: **734-769-1651** or email **programs@bethisrael-aa.org**

Another EXCELLENT reason to trust the cosmetic surgery experts.

We're pleased to introduce Dr. Ian Lytle, who combines a lifelong sense of aesthetics with the latest medical science from his University of Michigan training in plastic surgery—credentials that make him an excellent fit for our patients.

Call for a confidential consultation: 734 712-2323

CENTER FOR PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Paul Izenberg, MD
David Hing, MD
Richard Beil, MD
Daniel Sherick, MD
Ian Lytle, MD

Reichert Health Area, Suites 5001 & 5008, Ann Arbor www.cprs-aa.com

Demolitions at center of battle over city

By Dina Kraft

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Deep in a valley below Jerusalem's Old City, a narrow alleyway leads to the remains of three bulldozed Arab homes in an area slated to become an archeological park.

The homes, now just slabs of collapsed concrete, are in the eastern Jerusalem neighborhood of Silwan. Despite international protests — including from the U.S. secretary of state — the remaining 85 or so houses there, which were built without permits, are to be demolished to make room for a park the city hopes will be a major draw for tourists.

The dispute over the area, together with recent evictions in the Arab neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah, are the most recent markers in the battle over Jerusalem. Israel seeks to cement its control over the city in part by altering the demographic character of its eastern, Arab neighborhoods.

> ***The Jerusalem municipality says all eviction orders in Jerusalem are lawful, and that the law is applied to both Arab and Jew.***

"Our sovereignty over it cannot be challenged," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet in July, in comments aimed at rebuffing U.S. criticism over plans for turning a hotel in Sheikh Jarrah into a Jewish housing project. "This means, inter alia, that residents of Jerusalem may purchase apartments in all parts of the city."

Critics claim the government is purposefully boosting the Jewish presence in traditionally Arab eastern Jerusalem, creating "facts on the ground" in order to make it difficult to ever divide Jerusalem as part of a two-state solution to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Palestinians demand eastern Jerusalem as part of a future Palestinian state.

But the Israeli government insists that a series of development plans for the city's eastern part are not driven by a political agenda. The plans, in an area in and around the Old City called the Holy Basin because it is dotted with holy sites, call for more green space, better parking and repaved roads. Silwan and Sheikh Jarrah are both in that area.

"Government policy is governed by one overriding principle: that it is important to continue developing the city for benefit of all inhabitants of Jerusalem," Netanyahu spokesman Mark Regev told JTA. "The position is that Jerusalem will remain a united capital and the government wants to see all its communities flourish."

Maher Hanoun sees things differently. He was evicted from his home in early August after the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that the land on which it was built belonged to Jews, according to documentation dating back to the Ottoman era.

Hanoun's family, refugees from the fighting in Israel's War of Independence in 1948, lived in a house built there by the United Nations in the 1950s, when the land was under Jordanian rule. Now homeless, Hanoun and his family have opted to stay on the sidewalk across from their old house, sleeping on mattresses and passing their days under the shade of a small olive tree.

"They want to destroy our homes and build apartments for settlers," Hanoun said.

The house's new residents are Jewish. An armed guard watches the front gate, which is locked. A small Israeli flag flaps in the wind from the rooftop. Across an adjacent valley, more Israeli flags are visible on other homes.

Israel captured Eastern Jerusalem, along with the entire area known as the West Bank, in 1967 during the Six-Day War. When Israel later annexed eastern Jerusalem, the state offered Israeli citizenship to Arabs living there. Most refused, instead becoming permanent residents of the city with some of the same rights as Israelis, including Social Security payments.

The Jerusalem municipality says all eviction orders in Jerusalem are lawful, and that the law is applied to both Arab and Jew. But critics say evictions and demolitions are pursued aggressively in Arab parts of the city and only rarely in Jewish parts of the city, and that Arab Jerusalemites are forced to build illegally because their requests for building permits are regularly rejected.

"This is a proxy war carried out by the government of Israel by means of agents: the extreme right-wing groups active in east Jerusalem," said Daniel Seidemann, founder of Ir Amim, an Israeli organization that advocates the equitable sharing of Jerusalem between Jews and Arabs. "Virtually every government organ from the Prime Minister's Office on down is involved and the goal is, No. 1, territorial. This is a conscious effort to ring the historic basin with messianic settlements."

The city rejects such charges.

"The mayor and the municipality apply the law equally," Stephen Miller, a spokesman for Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat, said of demolition orders. "Anyone is free to build, expand and live as they desire as long as they follow the law."

American Jews are among the main supporters of increasing the Jewish presence in eastern Jerusalem, donating $25.4 million over the past five years to purchase and build homes there, according IRS filings reported by Bloomberg News.

The City of David Foundation, which in recent years built an elaborate visitor's center in Silwan where King David is believed to have laid the foundations for Jerusalem, is one of the Jewish groups involved in buying Arab homes in eastern Jerusalem. Known by its acronym, Elad, the group has helped settle 500 Jewish Israelis in those homes beginning in the 1990s.

"The City of David is not only a museum, in the sense that one feels the past; it is also the expression that the Jewish people have returned to their land," Doron Spielman, director of the foundation's overseas division, wrote in an e-mail to JTA.

"One of our goals is to enable a thriving Jewish community to exist in the ancient City of David alongside our Arab neighbors," he said. "The desire of Jews to buy land and live in the area is so high, and their Arab neighbors are at times willing to take advantage of the opportunity and purchase homes in another area of Jerusalem or outside the city." ■

Native-born children of foreign workers pose dilemma for Israel

By Dina Kraft

TEL AVIV (JTA)—The round-faced boy given the unusual first name of Rabbi by his Filipino parents was born 11 years ago in Israel and has never known another home.

He speaks only Hebrew and has never traveled to the Philippines, but along with some 1,100 other children of foreign workers without work permits in Israel, the boy faces possible deportation along with his family.

"I feel Israeli in my heart and in my soul," said the boy, Rabbi Eliazar Cruz.

His parents initially came to Israel legally, as caretakers for elderly clients, but overstayed their visas.

"The Land of Israel is my land," Rabbi said. "But these days I stay mostly at home, inside. I don't want to be caught outside and asked by the police where my parents are and deported."

In late July, a government order to deport the children and their families as part of a larger expulsion of migrants was delayed for three months by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the last minute under pressure from the public, local human rights groups and even President Shimon Peres.

Still, the question of government policy on the issue of the Israeli-born children of foreign workers, most of whose parents entered the country legally but stayed after their work permits expired, remains unresolved.

Like other countries in the industrial world, Israel faces the dilemma of how to deal with the families created on its soil by the foreign workers it invites in. But Israel, which has no immigration policy for non-Jews, finds itself in uncharted territory.

"On the one hand, Israel encouraged foreign workers to come for short-term stays and participate in the labor market in fields where there were not enough workers," said John Gal, a professor of social work at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

"But there was no contingency for them staying and raising families here," he said. "So Israel is now faced with a situation where we have children of workers born here but who lack citizenship or clear status."

Sabine Hadad, a spokeswoman for the Interior Ministry, said deporting illegal residents is a matter of law enforcement.

"These people have broken the law and they know that," she said of foreigners who overstayed their visas. "The law needs to be applied."

Instituting a policy that allows the parents of children born in Israel to stay in the country permanently also would open a route for illegal immigrants to stay in Israel forever: simply have a child here.

In the meantime, some 2,000 children of foreigners have come of age in Israel. They speak fluent Hebrew, attend Israeli schools and have joined youth movements. Some have even served in the military.

In 2006, a one-time government ruling gave 900 of the children permanent residency status. Those whose futures are now in question are the 1,100 others.

"I'm not Jewish, but I am Israeli," said a teenager whose parents came to Israel from Turkey.

The boy was speaking at a meeting of such children Tuesday at the offices of the Hotline for Migrant Workers, which is one of the main organizations lobbying against deportation.

Israeli rights groups also take issue with what they call the government's revolving-door policy of forcing foreign workers out of the country and then bringing in new workers instead of just keeping those who are here and want to stay.

Most of the country's foreign workers are from the Philippines, Thailand, Colombia, China and Africa. The vast majority work as caregivers for the elderly or physically impaired.

After the second intifada began in 2000, large numbers of permits were issued to bring in foreign workers in agriculture and construction to replace Palestinian workers.

In announcing the decision to halt the deportation orders for the children and their parents, Netanyahu's office released a statement explaining the administration's stance on illegal residents generally.

"The never-ending flow of illegal residents into Israel during the last few years has led to a situation whereby the percentage of illegal residents in the country is one of the highest in the world, relative to the local population and the number of employees in the job market," the statement said. "This fact increases unemployment among Israelis and significantly alters Israel's internal demographics."

Harel Kohen, an aide to Yaakov Katz, the lawmaker who heads the Knesset's committee on foreign workers, said that taking a firm line on foreign workers illegally in Israel is about preserving the Jewish character of Israel.

"We need to ensure they do not stay in Israel, otherwise Israel is at risk of having its own people assimilated," he said. "We could lose our Jewish identity."

The Interior Ministry says there are some 300,000 illegal migrants and approximately 70,700 legal foreign workers in Israel.

Education Minister Gidon Sa'ar is drafting legislation that would prevent the deportation and imprisonment of minors aged 3 to 18, along with their parents and siblings. Sa'ar also proposes outlining conditions in which permanent-resident status can be granted to children integrated into Israeli life.

Israel's daily *Ha'aretz* endorsed such a bill in a recent editorial.

"A nation that has experienced expulsion orders and refugee status is not allowed to expel the children of refugees and turn its back on the distress of children who want to become part of the country," the editorial said. ■

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE AVAILABLE

Schedule A Maintenance Today!!

YOKOHAMA High Performance Tires Sold Here! Free Shuttle Service!

FAWZI'S Westgate AUTO REPAIR

Our Promise To You
- Being honest & ethical in all business activities. Communicating with honesty.
- Saying what we mean & meaning what we say. Doing it right the first time.
- Treating everyone with integrity & keeping our promises.
- Our work for 12 months or 12,000 miles

Fawzi Hamden

AVE MARIA RADIO

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

Ann Arbor • 2470 W. Stadium Blvd. • 734-665-8700
Just South Of Jackson Rd. • Mon.-Sat. 8-6 • www.fawziautorepair.com
FULL-SERVICE AUTO REPAIR

ONLY $16.99 — Oil Change, Filter And Lube. Includes: Complete Chassis Lube, Up To 5 Qts. Shell Or Mobil Oil, New Oil Filter, FREE 16 Point Inspection + $1.00 Disposal Fee. Most Cars And Light Trucks. No Charge For Shop Supplies. FAWZI'S Ann Arbor • 734-665-8700 With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. expires 12/31/09

ONLY $28.99 — Oil, Lube & Filter. With Tire Rotation • Most Cars And Light Trucks. $1.00 Disposal Fee + Tax & Shop Supplies. FAWZI'S Ann Arbor • 734-665-8700 With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. expires 12/31/09

15% OFF — Auto Repair, Free Towing With Repair. Most Cars And Light Trucks. FAWZI'S Ann Arbor • 734-665-8700 With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. expires 12/31/09

FREE — Scheduled Maintenance Service Checkup. Value $68. FAWZI'S Ann Arbor • 734-665-8700 With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. expires 12/31/09

ONLY $39.99 — Front End Alignment. Most Cars And Light Trucks. FAWZI'S Ann Arbor • 734-665-8700 With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. expires 12/31/09

$10 OFF — Coolant Flush. Value $24. FAWZI'S Ann Arbor • 734-665-8700 With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. expires 12/31/09

5769: The year in review

JTA staff

OCTOBER

- Tzipi Livni, who won Kadima Party elections in September following Ehud Olmert's resignation, fails to assemble a coalition government and become prime minister. President Shimon Peres announces that Israel will hold new general elections. ns
- An acid and feces attack at the Budapest Jewish Theater just before Rosh Hashanah revives concerns about increasing anti-Semitism in Hungary.
- Rabbi Julie Schonfeld is named the new executive vice president of the Conservative movement's Rabbinical Assembly, becoming the first female rabbi to serve in the chief e ecutive position of an American rabbinical association.

NOVEMBER

- Barack Obama is elected the first black president of the United States with 78 percent of the Jewish vote, in line with previous Democratic nominees.
- Months after being the target of the largest immigration raid in American history, the embattled kosher meat producer Agriprocessors files for bankruptcy, leaving kosher consumers in the lurch and ushering in uncertain times for the Jewish community of Postville, Iowa. Subsequently the company is sold to a Canadian firm.
- Three new Jewish members are elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, but the Democratic tide is not strong enough to send Congress its first rabbi, Jewish Latina or Chinese Jew.
- Rahm Emanuel is tapped to become White House chief of staff and will emerge as a key point person in the administration's outreach to the Jewish community regarding Israel-related issues.
- Secular businessman Nir Barkat is elected mayor of Jerusalem.
- Terrorists target the Chabad house in Mumbai, India, killing its directors, Gavriel and Rivka Holtzberg, and four others.

DECEMBER

- Israeli security forces forcibly evict Jewish settlers from a disputed house in Hebron, setting off a rampage of violence by some Jewish e tremists against Palestinians in the West Bank.
- The collapse of Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme leads to the immediate collapse of two Jewish organizations and sends shock waves through the Jewish philanthropic world.
- The Bush administration makes a last-gasp push for Palestinian statehood—or the nearest it can get to it—with the apparent quiet encouragement of President-elect Obama.
- Israel launches Operation Cast Lead to curtail Hamas rocket fire from the Gaza Strip onto southern Israel.

JANUARY

- Enduring an onslaught of massive anti-Semitic and anti-Israel demonstrations in Europe, Jewish communities throughout the continent hold counter rallies to support Israel as it wages war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip.
- The vandalism of a synagogue in Caracas, Venezuela, further unsettles the Jewish community, already on edge over the harsh anti-Israel rhetoric of President Hugo Chavez.
- Ari Folman's animated Lebanon War film "Waltz with Bashir" wins the Golden Globe for best foreign-language film, but later fails to become the first Israeli movie to take home an Oscar.
- Operation Cast Lead ends after about 3 1/2 weeks and leaves some 1,300 Palestinians and 13 Israelis dead. Hamas rockets during the war reach as far as the Israeli cities of Yavneh, Beersheva and Kiryat Gat.
- Pope Benedict VI's decision to revoke an excommunication order for a Holocaust-denying bishop sparks an uproar and prompts another round of anguish over the state of Catholic-Jewish relations.

FEBRUARY

- Wading into what has emerged as a major partisan fight, Jewish organizations in Washington line up with Democrats in offering strong support for the $819 billion economic stimulus bill.
- In the Israeli elections, Tzipi Livni's Kadima emerges as the largest single party, but the right-wing parliamentary bloc, led by Likud's Benjamin Netanyahu, captures the majority of the Knesset seats.

Benjamin Netanyahu

- Avigdor Lieberman's Yisrael Beiteinu vaults over Labor to become Israel's third-largest political party, with 15 seats in the Knesset. A month later, Yisrael Beiteinu becomes Likud's first coalition partner, and the controversial Lieberman—who during the election campaign proposed mandating loyalty oaths to the Jewish state in a bid to curb Israeli Arab political power—is named foreign minister.

MARCH

- Eleventh-hour negotiations to free Gilad Shalit collapse.
- Three of the largest Jewish federations in the country—New York, Atlanta and Cleveland—announce substantial cutbacks in staff, adding to concerns about the health of the primary American Jewish charitable network.
- The Obama administration organizes the first-ever seder at the White House.
- Benjamin Netanyahu's careful articulations in his inaugural address leave uncertain where he stands on the most contentious issue in Israel, and between Israel and governments overseas.
- The United States decides to seek to join the U.N. Human Rights Council, reversing its policy of shunning the group and prompting concern among some Jewish organizations.
- U.S. Rep. Jane Harman (D-Calif.), a Jewish lawmaker in a fight for her political life following allegations that she agreed to intervene on behalf of two former AIPAC staffers charged with relaying classified leaks, sends a letter to the U.S. attorney general asking for the release of any tapes of classified conversations.

APRIL

- Jews across the denominational spectrum in Israel and the United States organize to say the Birkat Hachamah, a blessing over the sun that is recited every 28 years when, the Talmud says, the sun reaches the same spot in the firmament as when it was created.
- The discovery of a Hezbollah terrorist network in Egypt highlights the divide between the pro-Western moderates in the Middle East and the Iranian-led radicals, as well as the regional interests Egypt and Israel share.
- Jewish and Israeli activists descend en masse on the "Durban II" U.N. racism conference in Geneva. European delegates walk out of the main hall to protest an inflammatory anti-Israel speech by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.
- Arlen Specter switches to the Democratic Party, leaving the Senate without a Jewish Republican for the first time in decades.
- Jacob Zuma of the African National Congress is elected South Africa's new president, though 80 percent of Jews vote for the opposition party.
- Tel Aviv kicks off its centennial celebrations.

MAY

- The government moves to drop charges against two former AIPAC staffers charged with passing classified information to Israel.
- During speeches at the annual AIPAC policy conference in Washington, Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Sen. John Kerry pledge to confront Iran and protect Israel, but call on the Jewish state to freeze settlements. In the ensuing weeks, U.S.-Israel tensions mount as President Obama and other administration officials also press for a settlement freeze.
- Pope Benedict VI visits Israel and the West Bank. In Bethlehem he calls for a Palestinian homeland, leaves an interfaith conference in Jerusalem early after a Palestinian cleric accuses Israel of killing women and children, and destroying mosques, and prompts disappointment among some Israelis for remarks on the Holocaust seen as insufficient.
- President Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hold their first meeting at the White House. Obama talks of putting a timetable on U.S. diplomatic outreach to Iran over nuclear weapons, while also emphasizing that Israel needs to take "difficult steps" such as freezing settlements. Netanyahu stresses his interest in achieving peace, but stops short of endorsing a two-state solution.

JUNE

- In a speech in Cairo billed as an address to Muslims worldwide, President Obama describes Israel and the United States as sharing an unbreakable bond, then criticizes Holocaust denial in the Arab world and the use of the Palestinian issue to distract Arab populations from other problems. Obama draws criticism from some corners of the Jewish community for reiterating his call for a settlement freeze and failing to talk tough on Iran. Some critics claim that the president appears to embrace the Palestinian understanding of the Israeli-Arab conflict.
- Alysa Stanton becomes the first African-American female rabbi after being ordained by the Reform movement's Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.
- The United Jewish Communities decides to change its name to the Jewish Federations of North America and hires Jerry Silverman, a key player in raising tens of millions of dollars for Jewish summer camps and a former business executive who helped popularize the Dockers brand, as its next president and CEO.
- Far-right parties in Europe score significant gains in continent-wide elections for European Parliament.
- A security guard is killed when a gunman known for his anti-Semitic beliefs opens fire at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.
- In a speech at Bar-Ilan University, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu e presses conditional support for the eventual creation of a demilitarized Palestinian state. The Obama administration hails the speech as "positive movement," while the Palestinian Authority condemns it.
- Camps across the country report outbreaks of the swine flu virus, forcing some to postpone their openings and others to implement sweeping measures to screen new arrivals for signs of the illness.
- Natan Sharansky, the former Soviet dissident and Prisoner of Zion, is formally elected chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel.
- At the close of a Holocaust Era Assets Conference in Prague, 46 countries sign the Terezin Declaration, a nonbinding set of guiding principles aimed at faster, more open and transparent restitution of art and private and communal property taken by force or under duress during the Holocaust.
- With unrest mounting in Iran over official claims of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's re-election, U.S. Jewish organizational leaders call for more American support for the protesters and more international action to stop the Islamic Republic's nuclear program.
- As the health care reform debate heats up, Jewish organizations back the Obama administration on several key points, including the creation of a government-run public insurance option and pushing for measures that would help the rapidly aging Jewish community.
- With its decision in favor of comedian Al Franken, the Minnesota Supreme Court gives the U.S. Senate a 13th Jewish member.

JULY

- Nearly 40 Jewish and evangelical Christian leaders meet in Washington for a groundbreaking dialogue session.
- The leader of the gang responsible for kidnapping, torturing and murdering French Jew Ilan Halimi in 2006 is sentenced to life in prison. Many French Jews are upset that the trial is held behind closed doors, as the crime's anti-Semitic nature was in dispute.
- President Obama has his first White House meeting with Jewish leaders, sitting down with representatives of 14 organizations. Jewish leaders offer no direct criticism of his calls for a settlement freeze, but say he appears to be putting more pressure on Israel than on the Palestinians and Arab states. The president says he will work to change that perception.
- Some 8,000 athletes from around the world participate in the 18th Maccabiah Games, including U.S. Olympic swimmer Jason Lezak, who chooses the so-called Jewish Olympics in Israel over the World Championships. Lezak wins four gold medals, but Israel easily wins the medals competition.
- Five rabbis are among 44 people arrested as part of a public corruption and international money-laundering investigation in New Jersey that uses a prominent rabbi's son as an informant. Also charged are the mayors of several New Jersey cities and other state politicians, as well as a Brooklyn man who is accused of acquiring and trading kidneys for transplants.

AUGUST

- A masked gunman attacks a gay community center in Tel Aviv, killing two people and injuring a dozen. The tragedy sparks demonstrations throughout Israel in solidarity with the victims and the gay community.

Join

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah

Learn

Does this sound like you?

- *A warm community that welcomes all, including non-traditional families*
- *Join us to celebrate Shabbat and all major holidays*
- *Reconstructionists see Judaism is an evolving religious civilization where tradition has a vote, not a veto*

בית ספר

Beit Sefer . Religious School

- *K-7 Classes*
- *Religion, Culture, Tikkun Olam*
- *Bar / Bat Mitzvah Support*
- *Non-member children welcome*

Find out more: www.aarecon.org

A month of musical milestones

SanSlomovits, staff writer

Three musical milestones this month: *Fiddler on the Roof* is 45 years old. Who'd have thought that the story of a poor Russian shtetl family's simchas and tsuris would become one of the best-known, most-loved American musicals of all time? On the other hand, what better Everyman to symbolize and embody the dramatic changes ushering in the 20th century than Tevye and his family? In any case, mazel tov on the first 45 years. May we, our children, and our children's children continue to enjoy Fiddler for many, many more years.

Closer to home; Yiddishe Cup, one of the Midwest's top klezmer bands, recently released their fourth CD, *Klezmer Guy*, and Ann Arbor's own Kerrytown Concert House is celebrating its 25th Anniversary. KCH, by dint of seniority, gets to go first.

We all know that our city is blessed with many fabulous performance venues, from the elegant Hill Auditorium, to the rowdy Blind Pig. Amidst that embarrassment of riches, the Kerrytown Concert House can legitimately stake a claim to being perhaps the best, and certainly the most intimate hall in which to hear classical chamber music and jazz.

In the past 25 years, under the leadership of founder and Artistic Director, Deanna Relyea, KCH has established a local, national and international reputation for presenting some of the finest performers in the world of classical, jazz, cabaret, and avant-garde music.

KCH opened in September of 1984 with two evenings of concerts by our town's most illustrious musical couple, Bill Bolcom and Joan Morris. This month, KCH will present an entire week of celebratory concerts, culminating in an anniversary dinner and concert that will, once again, feature Bolcom and Morris.

KCH's anniversary week begins on September 18 and 19, (yes, Rosh Hashanah—tell all your non-Jewish friends) with two CD release concerts by Detroit's famed Joan and Marcus Belgrave. Violinist extraordinaire, Alicia Doudna, presents a recital on the 20nd, and Louis Nagel, who has performed at KCH many times, returns with a piano recital on the 22nd. The Hot Club of Detroit brings their virtuoso swinging jazz on the 23rd, and avant-garde singer/songwriter/pianist Gabriel Kahane is in town on the 24th. The festive anniversary dinner and concert with Bolcom and Morris and friends (including soprano Monica Swartout-Bebow, and others to be announced soon) will take place on the 25th. The celebration will continue with a Parisian Soiree on the 26th, featuring mezzo-soprano Deanna Relyea, guitarist, Matthew Ardizzone, soprano Monica Swartout-Bebow, pianist Michele Cooker, and cellist Andrea Yun.

Under the direction of new Executive Artistic Director Rachel Lauber, and Operations Manager Aubrey Lopatin, the KCH is clearly off to a great start for its next 25 years. For information and reservations, see www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com.

Yiddishe Cup, in case you're not yet familiar with them, is Cleveland's most recent contribution to the world of klezmer. "Most recent" is perhaps a misnomer, since by now they've been at it for twenty years. But the phrase applies in the sense that the band is following in the tradition of Mickey Katz, that city's perhaps most well known exponent—and exporter—of a unique niche of klezmer, the fusion of music and comedy. Katz was active in the 1950s and 1960s and Yiddishe Cup's last CD, *Meshugeneh Mambo*, featured a number of his songs. But their new CD, Klezmer Guy, released in July, is a protean pastiche—OK, a major mishmash—of everything from traditional Hasidic tunes and songs from the liturgy, to lively freylekhs, traditional Balkan and Romanian Gypsy dances and un-categorizeable pieces such as "Sci Fi Medley," three klezmerized tunes based on movie scores.

Yiddishe Cup carries all this off with plenty of aplomb. Of course, there is plenty of shtick and humor throughout, (about half of the tracks on *Klezmer Guy* are live, and the spaces between all the cuts are kept very short, giving the entire album a live concert feel) but there is no shortage of fine musicianship. The first track, "Anim Zemiros," sets the tone of this mix of klezmer and zaniness, when clarinet, violin and mandolin start out carrying the gorgeous melody and then… yodeling takes over—in Bobby McFerrin falsetto territory to boot! Only from Cleveland's crazy klezmers.

The recording has plenty of highly danceable horas and freylekhs, even one waltz with schmaltz, the Yiddish standard, "Di Zun Vet Aruntergeyn," and there are ones, such as the Moldovan "Nelika," featuring a 7/16 time signature, which should come with the warning, "Don't try this on your local dance floor!" Unless you're Moldovan, I suppose.

There are several of the genre-bending, genre blending mixtures that Yiddishe Cup fans have long been accustomed to, such as the Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme hit, "Hallelujah," here performed, in Hebrew, with Ann Arbor's Gerald Ross adding his expert playing on Hawaiian lap steel guitar. Or "Yiddishe Blues," a piece first recorded in 1918 that, as the liner notes say, "was possibly the first American klezmer fusion experiment, a cross between klezmer and ragtime." Yiddishe Cup's Jewish jokesters mash-up version, featuring bandleader Bert Stratton on clarinet and his son, Jack on percussion, keyboards and hip hop sound effects, updates the tune for the 21st century. My favorite cut on the CD is the traditional "Meron" which features Jack Stratton's exuberant and impeccable technique on a dumbek/percussion solo.

Yiddishe Cup has a strong Ann Arbor connection. Bandleader Bert Stratton is a former University of Michigan grad, and his son Jack attends the school now. The elder Stratton won a couple of Hopwood Awards for writing when he was a student here, and son Jack is continuing in a parallel award-winning tradition. A couple of years ago, as a freshman, he won a competition to record on the Music School's Block M Records "New Music on the Block" student-compilation CD.

The band visits here regularly, playing at many private functions, and also making an annual mid-winter pilgrimage to our town's holy grail of all manner of music, the Ark Coffeehouse. If you've already heard Yiddishe Cup live, the new CD will bring back good memories. If you've not yet seen them, give a listen. You'll want to be in the audience when they return to town. ■

Best wishes for a healthy, happy and sweet New Year
לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו
from the staff of the Washtenaw Jewish News

Make your next mailer, brochure, invitation or any design project a Graphic Design
by Dennis Platte
734.483.9619
dplatte2@aol.com

Breaking the fast, Sephardi style

By Linda Morel

NEW YORK (JTA)—The day before Yom Kippur, I always go to a local appetizing store and buy as much smoked fish as I can carry home. My selections are hardly ever tempered by my wallet, which is why I'm staggered when I get the bill. I do this from habit and because my family adores these foods. But are bagels and lox mandatory to break the Yom Kippur fast?

Ideally this meal should be restorative, easy to digest and readily assembled at the last minute. Bagels and lox meet these criteria, so platters of smoked fish — along with kugels and sliced tomatoes — have become the menu of choice among many Ashkenazim in America. But this year I became curious about Sephardic customs. Perusing cookbooks, I discovered a treasure trove of breakfast recipes whose variety astounded me.

Sephardim often partake in dairy foods on this special night; bagels and lox are not part of their culinary repertoire. Surprisingly, some Sephardim break the fast with soups and stews calling for meat, and with dishes that are typical main course fare, as opposed to the brunch foods enjoyed by Ashkenazim.

While the break-fast menu varies among Sephardim from country to country, their entrees and side dishes are nourishing, delicious, gentle on empty stomachs and economical. They are well worth considering in a year when the stock market remains down and the cost of smoked fish is up.

The Sephardic custom of eating meat to break the fast has roots in Spanish tradition. *In A Drizzle of Honey: The Lives and Recipes of Spain's Secret Jews*, authors David Gitlitz and Linda Kay Davidson cited several instances of meat-based menus. Jews in Castile, who clandestinely conformed to their religion to avoid the terror of the Spanish Inquisition, often broke the fast with fowl or other meat. In Aragon, Spain, and in Portugal, fish and fowl were the preferred foods on this occasion.

The authors mentioned the late 15th century custom of Rabbi Simuel of Teruel: "After the fast, in the evening [his family] ate chicken. Amazingly the family of Aldonza Deli of Teruel broke their fast with doves." While I've never tried a dove—at Yom Kippur or ever—I've always felt a nice bowl of chicken soup would be appealing after forgoing food for more than 24 hours.

In *Jewish Food: The World at Table*, Mathew Goodman discussed the Sephardic custom of breaking the Yom Kippur fast with chicken soup. In Italy, the broth is often heightened with turkey meatballs and pieces of pasta, which sounded very tempting.

Jews in Greece and Turkey end the fast with Avgolemono, an egg-and-lemon soup in a chicken broth base that is thickened with rice. Light and delicious, it's a staple on Greek diner menus year round.

Several cookbooks featured Moroccan Lemon Chicken with Olives, a wildly popular break-fast stew, which richly deserves its reputation.

Morocco has spawned a spectrum of tempting break-fast recipes. In the *Jewish Holiday Kitchen*, Joan Nathan raved about both chicken couscous and harira, a thick soup brimming with stewing meat, fava beans and lentils. The original recipe dates back to biblical times. Nathan's cookbook featured an easy but delicious recipe for Algerian Chicken Tagine (stew) with Quinces, which the Jaffin family of Algiers served as a main course to break the fast.

Of course, no Jewish holiday meal is complete without fish on the menu. In "The Classic Cuisine of the Italian Jews," Edda Servi Machlin waxed poetic about a sweet-and-sour fish in the Jewish style.

After tinkering with the recipe, I realized this piquant dish would be an excellent way to introduce Sephardic food to the usual smoked fish menu, a way to bridge the gap for those who aren't ready to jump to meat.

Likewise, Zucca Disfatta, or Pumpkin Puree, is a pareve recipe that pairs well with meat dishes or smoked fish. Claudia Roden in her landmark *The Book of Jewish Food: An Odyssey from Samarkand to New York* explained that the dish was prepared to break the fast in charming Ferrara, Italy, the setting of the movie "The Garden of the Finzi-Contini."

Sephardic recipe possibilities go on and on. Moroccan Jews also break the fast with a chickpea and chicken omelet. Or there's Hamine, eggs cooked for hours until their yolks turn creamy and their whites become light brown. According to Roden says that hamine, which are sold by street vendors in Israel, have come to epitomize Sephardic food there. Like smoked fish, they are eaten at births and deaths, and to break the Yom Kippur fast.

Although Sephardic and Ashkenazi Jews may come from different culinary traditions, we are tied together by a common heritage. Whether we eat dairy foods or meat, after the Day of Atonement we turn to each other, our families and foods we can count on.

The following recipes were developed by Linda Morel.

AVGOLEMONO (Egg and Lemon Soup)

Meat

This light soup hailing from Greece and Turkey is calming to empty stomachs. Original recipes call for homemade chicken broth, but the canned broth in this version eases preparation at a busy time of year.

Yield: 8 servings

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion chopped
- 5 carrots, cut horizontally into thin circles
- 1/2 cup uncooked rice
- 1 (48-ounce) can chicken broth
- 1 chicken bouillon cube, dissolved in 1 1/2 cups hot water
- 3 eggs at room temperature
- 1 1/2 lemons at room temperature

1. In a medium-large pot, heat olive oil on a low flame. Add onion and stir for 1 to 2 minutes, until softened. Add carrots and rice and stir for another couple of minutes until well combined.

2. Pour chicken broth and bouillon water into pot. Stir ingredients and cover pot. When broth comes to a boil, lower flame so that broth gently simmers. Simmer 25 to 30 minutes, or until rice is soft enough to eat.

3. Meanwhile, whisk eggs in a medium-sized bowl until frothy. Slowly drizzle in lemon juice while whisking.

4. When soup is ready, uncover the pot and stir soup for a minute to release heat. Remove a half-ladle of soup and gradually drizzle into egg mixture, whisking briskly. (If you add soup too quickly, eggs will curdle.) Repeat this 3 more times, until you've added 2 ladles of soup to egg mixture.

5. Stir pot of soup again to continue releasing heat. Slowly drizzle egg mixture into pot of soup, whisking vigorously. Soup will appear creamy.

6. To serve immediately, heat soup on a low flame for about 2 minutes, until warmed through. Recipe can be made a day in advance, covered, refrigerated and reheated on a low flame.

DJADJA ZETOON (Moroccan-Style Lemon Chicken with Olives)

Meat

Yield: 6-8 servings

Preserved Lemon Express

Jews throughout North Africa and in many Middle Eastern countries cook with preserved lemons, which are quartered, heavily salted, and stored in jars of oil for 3 to 4 weeks. This process softens the peel's bitterness while enhancing the lemon's splendid pungency. Here is a 30-minute method that approximates the burst of citrus flavor achieved the old fashion way:

- 1 lemon
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 cups ice cubes

With the point of a sharp knife, pierce the lemon skin 4 times, barely breaking the surface. In a small saucepan, submerge the lemon in water. Add olive oil and salt. Simmer on a low flame for 30 minutes. Remove lemon with a slotted spoon and submerge in a bath of ice cubes and water for 5 minutes (lemon may pucker). Remove and dry with a paper towel. Can be made a day before Lemon Chicken, if covered in plastic wrap and refrigerated.

Lemon Chicken

- 1 chicken, cut into 10 pieces (2 legs, 2 hips, 2 wings, and the breast cut into quarters)
- 5 tablespoons olive oil, or more if needed
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon fresh ginger, minced
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1/4 teaspoon ground tumeric
- 3 tablespoons parsley, chopped
- 3 tablespoons cilantro, chopped
- Kosher salt to taste
- Black pepper to taste
- 2/3 cup green olives (not filled with pimentos), pitted and sliced
- 2 packages couscous, optional, prepared according to package instructions

1. In a large pot, heat 2 tablespoons olive oil briefly on a medium flame. Saute chicken pieces until golden brown. Remove to a platter. Carefully pour oily chicken fat from pot into a heatproof container. Wipe pan clean with a paper towel. Add remaining 3 tablespoons of olive oil and saute onion, garlic, and ginger for 2 minutes.

2. Stir tomato paste and tumeric into 1 1/2 cups water, combining well. Return chicken to pot and stir. Add tomato mixture, parsley, cilantro, salt, and pepper. Cover pot. On a medium flame, simmer for 45 minutes, turning chicken and stirring sauce occasionally.

3. Meanwhile, slice Preserved Lemon (recipe above) in half and discard seeds. Cut lemon into 1/4-inch pieces, including the peel. Add lemon pieces and olives to chicken. Stir and simmer for 5 minutes. Prepare couscous.

4. To serve immediately, place couscous on a platter and cover with chicken and sauce. Garnish with sprigs of fresh cilantro and parsley, if desired. To prepare a day in advance, cover chicken and refrigerate. Reheat on a low flame until warmed through.

ZUCCA DISFATTA (Pumpkin Puree)

Pareve

In Italy, pumpkins have a different taste and consistency than those found in the United States. In fact the word zucca means either pumpkin or gourd. Original recipes call for fresh pumpkin and entail the arduous task of peeling the flesh from the peel.

Yield: 6-8 servings

- 6-cup souffle dish or comparable deep ovenproof dish
- Food processor or blender
- 1 large onion, chopped fine
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- Salt to taste
- 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon, plus more for dusting
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, or more if desired
- 2 (15-ounce) cans pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix)
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon Balsamic vinegar
- No-stick vegetable spray
- 1/4 cup sliced almonds

1. On a low flame, saute onion in vegetable oil. Sprinkle in salt, cinnamon, and pepper, mixing well. Saute, stirring occasionally until onion pieces wilt but do not burn. Cool slightly.

2. In the bowl of a food processor fitted with a metal blade, place pumpkin, sugar, vinegar and onion mixture. Process ingredients until well blended. Check salt and seasonings and add more, if needed.

3. Coat souffle dish with no stick spray. Spoon pumpkin mixture into prepared dish. Recipe can be made to this point one day in advance. Cover dish, refrigerate, and bring to room temperature before proceeding.

4. Preheat oven to 350°. Sprinkle almonds and cinnamon on top of pumpkin. Bake uncovered for 25 minutes, or until pumpkin bubbles at the edges. Serve immediately.

BESCE ALL'EBRAICA (Fish, Jewish Style, from Italy)

Pareve

In Italy, this recipe is made with small whole fish. To satisfy American preferences, this version calls for fillets, allowing the dish to be reheated right before the break-fast meal.

Yield: 8 servings

- 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
- 1/4 cup dry red wine
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1 heaping tablespoon honey
- 1/2 cup dark raisins
- No-stick vegetable spray
- 2 red snappers (2 pounds each), filleted and cut into 4 pieces each, 8 pieces in all
- Kosher salt to taste
- White pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup pignoli nuts

1. Whisk together vinegar, wine, oil, and honey until honey dissolves. Stir in raisins and soak for 15 minutes.

2. Preheat oven to 350° Coat a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with no-stick spray. Rinse fillets under cold water and dry with paper towels. Sprinkle fillets with salt and pepper. Place fillets skin side down in prepared pan, overlapping as little as possible.

3. Whisk vinegar mixture again and pour over fillets, evenly coating them. Place pan in oven and bake for 10 minutes. Baste every 5 minutes.

4. Sprinkle pignoli nuts over the fillets and continue to bake and baste for another 10 minutes, or until fish flakes when pierced with a fork.

5. To serve immediately, place fish on a platter and spoon raisins, nuts, and sauce over fish. To prepare a day in advance, cover pan with aluminum foil and refrigerate. Return fish to room temperature. Reheat in a 350° oven for 10 minutes, or until warmed through.

Calendar

September 2009

Tuesday 1

"The Bible in Its Time:" JCC. Taught by Liz Fried. Eight sessions through October 27. Free tuition for Washtenaw County residents aged 65 and older through Washtenaw Community College Outreach Program. For information or to register, call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m., (New) Bridge Club at 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Biblical Reflections: Jewish Learning Institute. "Finding You in the Book of Genesis." Six-session course examines classic stories from Genesis in a modern light, focusing on eternal relevance to everyday life. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 2

Thursday 3

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations (see description below), 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the **JCC.**

Birthdays and Presentation: JCC Seniors. Celebration for all with birthdays in September. Friends and family are invited to join group for lunch and birthday cake at 12:30 p.m. Followed by a preview of and insights about the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra's 2009-10 season, presented by Laura Dunbar, AASO Education and Community Outreach Coordinator. 1 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 4

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot service and dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by songs and popsicle Oneg. Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 5

Torah Study: TBE. With Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m., followed by Chapel Service at 9:30 a.m. and Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of calendar.*

Sunday 6

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Cedar Point Trip: AARTY. All-day trip for TBE high schoolers. 9 a.m.–9 p.m. For information, contact Cantor Annie Rose at cantorannie@gmail.com.

Fun Fair: BIC. 11:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 7

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Tuesday 8

"The Bible in Its Time," with Liz Fried: JCC. *See September 1.*

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m.; $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games, and weekly Bridge Club, 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Biblical Reflections: Jewish Learning Institute. "Finding You in the Book of Genesis." Six-session course examines classic stories from Genesis in a modern light, focusing on eternal relevance to everyday life. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Mussar Study Group: BIC. Seasons of Mussar I. 7 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 9

Lunch and Learn: BIC. "Examining Themes of the High Holidays: Judging Ourselves and Refraining from Judging Others," featuring excerpts from *Picket Fences.* Bring dairy lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. Noon.

EMjU: EMU Hillel. Get a taste of Jewish life on campus. Outside Pray-Harrold Hall. 4–7 p.m.

Adult Mini School: JCC. The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School offers an interactive, pluralistic approach to learning that explores how the texts of Jewish traditions speak to the realities of modern life. Issues of Jewish thought, practice, ethics and history will be explored. Classes run for 30 weeks, excluding holidays. $550/tuition. For information, contact Julie Gales at 971-0990 or email juliegales@jccfed.org. 7–9:15 p.m.

Board Meeting: TBE. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 10

Hit and Run Breakfast: EMU Hillel. Breakfast to go, Hillel-style. North Campus Commuter Lot. 7:30–9 a.m.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations (see description below), 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Presentation: JCC Seniors. A registered nurse will take and record blood pressures and address questions at 12:30 p.m., followed at 1 p.m. by a presentation by Registered Nutritionist Jean Miller of Washtenaw County FoodSafe Program who will talk about making sure food is served and stored safely.

Film Discussion Group: JCC. Join Russell Collins, Executive Director of the Michigan Theater, along with fellow movie mavens to view and discuss a movie. Movies are viewed independently at local cinemas. Annual membership of 10 sessions is $60/JCC members; $75/non-members. For information, contact Leslie Bash at 971-0990 or email lesliebash@jccfed.org. 7 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 11

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Followed by songs and popsicle Oneg.

Shabbat BBQ Dinner: TBE Brotherhood. $10/adult. RSVP to TBE office at 665-4744 or advance purchase at www.templebethemeth.org. 6 p.m.

Welcome Back Shabbat: EMU Hillel. RSVP to Ricky at program@emuhillel.org. 6 p.m.

Pet Shabbat: BIC. An outside Shabbat celebration for humans and their loyal pets.

Kabbalat Shabbat: BIC. Services at 7:15 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 12

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m., followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m. and Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Selichot Service: Chabad. Featuring Oak Park Rabbi Polter leading the service. 1:30 p.m.

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

"Finding a Spiritual Path in the Modern World:" TBE. "Preparing your Heart for the High Holy Days," presented by Rabbi Levy. 9 p.m.

Selichot Service: Pardes Hannah. Meditation and Torah learning. For information, see pardeshannah.org.

Selichot Service: BIC. Havdalah, followed by showing of *Groundhog Day*, 8:30 p.m. Text study with Rabbi Dobrusin at 9:45 p.m. Dedication of Memorial Plaques at 10:45 p.m. Selichot Services at 11 p.m.

Selichot Service: TBE. Preceded by Havdalah and refreshments. 10 p.m.

Sunday 13

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Mishnah Torah Text Study: BIC. Class with Rabbi Dobrusin on "Maimonides on the Laws of Shabbat." 8 p.m.

Opening Brunch: TBE Sisterhood. 10:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Hike: Jewish Hikers of Michigan. 1 p.m.

Hillel vs. Hillel Football: EMU Hillel. Scrimmage with Hillel of Metropolitan Detroit. Meet at EMU Hillel to caravan to Frog Island Park. 1–2:30 p.m.

Apples and Honey and Newcomers Booth: JCC. Annual family event bringing together Jewish organization to provide information about their purpose and to educate about the upcoming holidays of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year; Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement; and Sukkot, the fall harvest festival. Many children's activities offered including bouncers, train rides, games, shofar blowing, and arts and crafts, plus clowns and face painting. Israeli food, kosher baked goods and lunch will be available to purchase along with gifts and Judaica items. Newcomers Booth will welcome new JCC members and new arrivals to Ann Arbor community. Reservations required. For more information or to register, call Halye Aisner at 971-0990 or email halyeaisner@jccfed.org. Noon–3 p.m.

Dinner: Ann Arbor Jewish Professional Singles, 40s–60s. Dinner event at the Gandy Dancer Restaurant, 5 p.m. Must RSVP by 9/ 9 to Robbie Levett (248) 486-4733 or Gail Mash (248)569-5579.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 14

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Calendar

Classes Begin: JCC ECC and Youth. Early childhood and youth enrichment classes offered. For information about earily childhood classes, contact Noreen DeYoung at 971-0990 or email noreendeyoung@jccfed. For information about youth classes, contact Deborah Huerta at 971-0990 or email deborahhuerta@jccfed.org.

Board Meeting: TBE Sisterhood. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 15

"The Bible in Its Time," with Liz Fried: JCC. *See September 1.*

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m.; $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games, and weekly Bridge Club, 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Biblical Reflections: Jewish Learning Institute. "Finding You in the Book of Genesis." Six-session course examines classic stories from Genesis in a modern light, focusing on eternal relevance to everyday life. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Movie Tuesday: TBE. Midday movie, nosh, and short discussion after watching *God on Trial* presented by Masterpiece Theater. 1–3 p.m.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Mussar Study Group: BIC. Seasons of Mussar I. 7 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Wednesday 16

Lunch and Learn: BIC. "Examining Themes of the High Holidays: Teshuva Repentance," featuring excerpts from *My Name is Earl.* Bring dairy lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. Noon.

Caregiver Conversations: JFS. Monthly drop-in educational and support group for adult children in a variety of caregiver roles for aging parents. Co-sponsored by the JCC, Reconstructionist Havurah, TBE, BIC and the JCS. This month's topic is "When a Parent Moves: Downsizing and Making the Transition." 6:30–8 p.m.

Thursday 17

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations (see description below), 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Presentation: JCC Seniors. Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, David Shtulman, will present on "Making Jewish Community Thrive in Ann Arbor," 1 p.m. Prior to the program, Jewish Family Services Geriatric Social Worker Allison Pollock, MSW, will be available for discussion, questions and assistance at 12:30 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday*

Friday 18

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Birthday of the World Celebration for Preschoolers: TBE. Led by Cantor Annie Rose. 2:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah Family Celebration and Services: BIC. Celebration at 4 p.m. Services at 8 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: Chabad. Services followed by festive meal. 7:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: EMU Hillel. With Temple Beth Emeth at Pease Auditorium. Students may pick up free tickets in advance. 8 p.m.

Saturday 19

Rosh Hashanah Services: TBE. Family Services at 9 a.m. Traditional Service at 11 a.m. AARTY Service at 11 a.m. Tashlich Service at 1:30 p.m. Birthday of the World Service at 2:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: Pardes Hannah. Services at St. Aidan's Episcopal Northside Community Church, 1679 Broadway. 9:30 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: Chabad. Morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon and evening services at 7:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: BIC. Morning services at 8 a.m. Youth Programs Service at 10:30 a.m. Mincha and Ma'ariv Service at 7:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: EMU Hillel. With Temple Beth Emeth at Pease Auditorium. Students may pick up free tickets in advance. 11 a.m.

Sunday 20

Rosh Hashanah Services: BIC. Morning Services at 8 a.m. Youth Programs Service for 10:30 a.m. Birthday of the World: K–5 Family Program on second day of Rosh Hashanah. 11:15 p.m. Minch followed by Tashlich at 5 p.m. Ma'ariv Service at 7:40 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: Chabad. Morning services at 9:45 a.m. Sounding of the Shofar at 11:30 a.m. followed by festive meal. Afternoon Riverside Services and Tashlich at 4 p.m., followed by festive meal. Afternoon and evening services at 7:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Services: Pardes Hannah. Meditation service beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding at 1 p.m. with Kiddush and potluck vegetarian lunch at St. Aidan's Episcopal Northside Community Church, 1679 Broadway.

Exceptional Athletes

#33 Junior Furrha, Varsity Football Player. Class of 2011.

Pioneer sophomore football standout Junior Furrha tackles academics *and* athletics as one of more than 2500 Ann Arbor High School students who participate in team sports each year. AAPS offers extensive athletic programming for K-12 students and boasts many teams ranked statewide. Educators, parents and students alike recognize the importance of sports in education and appreciate its contributions to developing important life skills for the future.

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.a2schools.org

Monday 21

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Mishnah Torah Text Study: BIC. Class with Rabbi Dobrusin on "Maimonides on the Laws of Shabbat." 8 p.m.

Tuesday 22

"The Bible in Its Time" with Liz Fried: JCC. *See September 1.*

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games, weekly Bridge Club, 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Biblical Reflections: Jewish Learning Institute. "Finding You in the Book of Genesis." Six-session course examines classic stories from Genesis in a modern light, focusing on eternal relevance to everyday life. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Wednesday 23

High Holiday Luncheon: JCC Seniors. $20/person. 11 a.m. RSVP by September 10. For information or to register, call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990.

Lunch and Learn: BIC. "Examining Themes of the High Holidays: The Yetzer Hatov and the Yetzer Hara–The Good Inclination and the Bad Inclination," featuring excerpts from *The Twilight Zone.*. Bring dairy lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. Noon.

Afternoon Delights Concert: JCC. The Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra's Andiamo Quartet performs. $8/door or in advance from AASO. $35/ 5 concert series. Refreshments at 1 p.m. Concert at 1:30 p.m. For information or to register, contact Merrill Poliner at 769-0209 or email Merrill@jfsannarbor.org.

Thursday 24

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the **JCC.**

Seniors on the Go: JCC Older Adult Program. Seniors will travel to the UM Museum of Art for a docent tour. Round trip transportation is $5. Reservations required by September 15. Contact Merrill at 971-0990. 12:45–2:45 p.m.

Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 25

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Followed by songs and popsicle Oneg at 5:30 p.m. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m.

FYSH Shabbat: EMU Hillel. First Year Students of Hillel (FYSH) Shabbat hosted by Kourtney Spaulding, EMU Hillel's first FYSH intern. To RSVP, contact Ricky at program@emuhillel.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 26

Pre-School 4 Family Education Program. TBE. 8:45 a.m. at Brown Park.

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. followed by morning minyan at 9:30 a.m.

Kids Night Out: JCC. Designed to give elementary school-aged children a chance to have fund with their friends and to give parents a chance to have a night on their own. $20/members; $18/additional siblings. $25/non-members. For information or to register, contact Deborah Huerta at 971-0990 or email deborahhuerta@jccfed.org. 6:30–10 p.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of calendar*

Sunday 27

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Kever Avot Service: TBE and BIC. Joint service conducted by clergy of both congregations. 12:30 p.m. at Arborcrest Memorial Park.

Kol Nidre Services: Pardes Hannah. Kol Nidre services at St. Aidan's Episcopal Northside Community Church, 1679 Broadway. 6:30 p.m.

Kol Nidre Services: BIC. 6:55 p.m. with additional service for 6th–8th graders and for 9th–12th graders, also at 6:55 p.m.

Kol Nidre Services: Chabad. Kol Nidre and evening services, 7 p.m.

Kol Nidre: TBE. 8 p.m. Also AARTY Kol Nidre Service at 8 p.m.

Kol Nidre Services: EMU Hillel. Kol Nidre services with Temple Beth Emeth at Pease Auditorium. Students may pick up free tickets in advance. 8 p.m.

Monday, 28

Yom Kippur Services: BIC. Morning services at 8 a.m. K–8 Youth Programs Services at 10:30 a.m. Study Session at 4:15 p.m. Mincha Service at 5:15 p.m. Neila Service at 6:45 p.m. Break the Fast at 8:05 p.m.

Yom Kippur Services: TBE. Family Service at 9 a.m. Traditional Service at 11 a.m. Service of Personal Renewal at 2:30 p.m. Torah Study at 2:30 p.m. Afternoon Service at 3:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur Services: Pardes Hannah. Services begin at 9:30 a.m. Restorative yoga or a meditative walk offered at 2:45 p.m. Yizkor at 5:15 p.m. Final Shofar blowing at 8 p.m. followed by potluck vegetarian break-the-fast. St. Aidan's Episcopal Northside Community church, 1679 Broadway.

Yom Kippur Services: EMU Hillel. With Temple Beth Emeth at Pease Auditorium Students may pick up free tickets in advance. 11 a.m.

Yom Kippur Services: Chabad. Morning services at 9:45 a.m. Yizkor memorial services at 12:30 p.m. Afternoon and evening services at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday 29

"The Bible in Its Time," with Liz Fried: JCC. *See September 1.*

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games, and weekly Bridge Club, 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Biblical Reflections: Jewish Learning Institute. "Finding You in the Book of Genesis." Six-session course examines classic stories from Genesis in a modern light, focusing on eternal relevance to everyday life. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 30

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call 994-9258 in advance to confirm time. 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by Shira at 6 p.m.; Shira: Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. 6:15 PM at the JCC the last Friday each month. Musical Shabbat service followed by vegetarian potluck. Tot Shabbat with optional kid's pizza dinner at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. For information, call 913-9705, email info@aarecon.org or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candlelighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call 662-5805 for information. Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. UM Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m.; 6 p.m. Mincha. Morning childcare from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services: AA Reconstructionist Havurah. Discussion-based format with topics changing monthly. For info, email info@aarecon.org or call 913-9705 or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study at 8:50 a.m. Chapel Service at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. Call the office at 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and *yom tov* (Jewish holiday). Call 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah (AARH)
P.O. Box 7451, Ann Arbor 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276

EMU Hillel
965 Washtenaw Ave., Ypsilanti 482-0456

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744

UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

September 4	*6:43 p.m.*
September 11	*6:31 p.m.*
September 18	*6:18 p.m.*
September 25	*6:06 p.m.*

Law Office of Christopher Sevick, PLC
Focusing on Real Estate and Estate Planning
Evening & Weekend Appointments * www.SevickLaw.com
Free Initial Consultations * 734.480.9100 - Telephone
124 Pearl Street, Suite 405, Ypsilanti, MI 48197-2663

131st Season ums 09|10

ITZHAK PERLMAN violin
ROHAN DE SILVA piano
Sun, Sep 13 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

Reigning superstar of the violin Itzhak Perlman returns for his first UMS recital since 2000 to open the 09/10 season.

SPONSORED BY University of Michigan Health System

HOSTED BY JERRY AND GLORIA ABRAMS, RICKY AND BERNIE AGRANOFF, HERB AND CAROL AMSTER, SUSAN AND RICHARD GUTOW, AND PRUE AND AMI ROSENTHAL.

MEDIA PARTNERS WGTE 91.3 FM AND WRCJ 90.9 FM.

ums Tickets on sale now!
734.764.2538 | www.ums.org
HOURS: Mon-Fri: 9 am to 5 pm Sat: 10 am to 1 pm

2009-2010 Season

An Infinite Ache by David Schulner
October 1 - November 8, 2009
A love story about the infinite directions two lives can travel told with theatrical flair.

This Wonderful Life by Steve Murray
November 27 - December 20, 2009
The beloved American film classic, *It's A Wonderful Life*, comes to the stage.

The Smell of the Kill by Michele Lowe
February 4 - March 7, 2010
A dark comedy about men, women, marriage and malice.

IT CAME FROM MARS by Joseph Zettelmaier
March 31 - April 18, 2010
World Premiere Comedy!
It's Halloween, 1938 and the Martians have landed!!

Home: Voices from Families of the Midwest
by Annie Martin and Suzi Regan
May 13 - June 13, 2010
World Premiere of the final installment of our *Voices from the Midwest* series.

Five Course Love Book, Music & Lyrics by Gregg Coffin
July 8 - August 15, 2010
A high-energy, screwball musical about the often elusive search for love.

Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston MI 48895
517-655-SHOW (7469) ~ www.williamstontheatre.org

Allocations, continued from page 9

• Hillel at Eastern Michigan University, in comparison to Hillel at U-M, operates on a shoe-string budget in service of the 1,000 Jewish students who attend there. Even so, EMU Hillel provides a quality program for its students and is essential because it is the only Jewish presence on campus.

• Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor is the "home base" for Jewish communal life and activity in Ann Arbor. It runs an accredited Early Childcare Center, provides services for all ages from tots to seniors, houses the Federation, HDS, the Washtenaw Jewish News, Jewish Cultural Society and the Reconstructionist Havurah. The JCC's Jewish Book Fair and Jewish Film Festival are two highlights of the Ann Arbor Jewish calendar and the Florence Melton Adult Education program is a prestigious adult education offering available to the entire community.

The primary challenge to the JCC is the cost of maintaining the physical plant, a never-ending task in an older facility. Today, the JCC faces a cost of $200,000 to repair the roof and could need a new heating plant in the near future. In order to help meet these costs, the JCC had to raise the rent for its tenants. While the rent remains below market rates, the increase has put added pressure on the budgets of the tenants. The JCC is doing everything possible to mitigate this pressure while working to maintain the integrity of the facility as a gathering place for the community.

• Jewish Family Services is a full service human services agency. It offers an impressive array of services to all of Ann Arbor and is thus able to access grants and generate revenues from multiple government sources as well as community foundations and the United Way. JFS is an efficient and nimble organization, able to respond quickly to needs as new circumstances arise and to utilize its existing resources to great effect. JFS serves as the first responder to community needs resulting from the recession and the shrinking job market. This has put added burdens on its staff and resources as JFS strives to meet the additional client needs.

The Federation has helped JFS to meet these needs by creating an Emergency Assistance Fund of $15,000 which is available to JFS as necessary to meet extraordinary needs. JFS will also try to access additional funds made available through grants as part of the government economic stimulus programs.

• Keshet Ann Arbor is a unique program offering Hebrew language instruction to area high school students in a supplementary school format that is open to all youth. Students who participate in Keshet and meet all requirements receive foreign language credits in their high school. This is the only option available in Ann Arbor to receive language credits in the public schools for the study of Hebrew. In addition, it is the only venue in which Jewish students from different high schools can come together for Jewish study.

• Security Services is one area that many community members feel is indispensable and others feel is an unaffordable luxury in these times. Following attacks on other Jewish facilities in Los Angeles and Seattle, and in response to the urging of parents whose children attend HDS and the ECC program at the JCC, Federation created a $100,000 line to pay for full-time security guards at the JCC and at JFS. It is regrettable that security is deemed necessary at Jewish institutions today but many staff members, clients and parents would be uncomfortable if it were no longer provided. We hate to believe that a Jewish institution could be an unsafe place in Ann Arbor, but the recent shooting at the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. proves that one angry armed man can appear at any time and, if you are not prepared, the results can be tragic.

The Allocations Committee has discussed the differing opinions and concluded that security is a community issue and they should not make unilateral changes in this allocation without community consultation. The Federation has decided to sustain this service until such time that there is community consensus that security guards should no longer be funded or the agencies that are served by the security guards indicate they believe the service is no longer needed. A process will be put in place to make these determinations.

The Federation retains a Reserve for Unmet Pledges and this reserve is being increased this year. The Federation bases its allocations on the pledges of its donors. While allocations are determined in May, pledge payments are not due until December 31. Therefore, the ability of Federation to pay out the promised allocations depends on donors fulfilling their pledges. Each year, for a variety of reasons, a number of pledges are not paid. To cover this shortfall the Federation holds back a reserve for unmet pledges that it can draw from to fulfill its obligations to its beneficiaries. The number of unpaid pledges has slowly been increasing over the last three years testing the limits of the reserve fund. In 2009, many donors are finding themselves with fewer resources due to the recession than they had when they made their pledges. Already, we are hearing from donors who tell us that they will be unable to fulfill their entire pledge. Therefore, the Federation has decided to increase the size of the reserve.

Conclusion

Jewish communities everywhere must face a new reality. The economic recession, steep losses in the stock markets, shrinking endowments and high unemployment rates have changed the non-profit world for the foreseeable future. We no longer have the resources we once had, even if the need for those resources is greater today than in the past.

We hope that the economy will recover quickly and with it the success of our campaigns, but we do not know how long that will take. Therefore, it is incumbent upon each of us to respond to this new reality by reviewing our core mission and preserving the ability to fulfill it, eliminating waste from our operations, seeking out synergies with other community bodies and working cooperatively to assure that collectively we are able to meet the most urgent needs of our community and sustain the vibrant Jewish life that we enjoy in Ann Arbor today.

Simultaneously, every Jewish community member should ask themselves if they are being as generous as they can be to support Jewish life in this difficult period. The Federation can only allocate for services as much as community members are able and willing to contribute.

The Federation of Greater Ann Arbor is confident that we have the quality of leadership and generosity of spirit to meet the challenges that face us and looks forward to being a partner to all our agencies, congregations and organizations in continuing to build Jewish life. ■

Vitals

Mazal tov

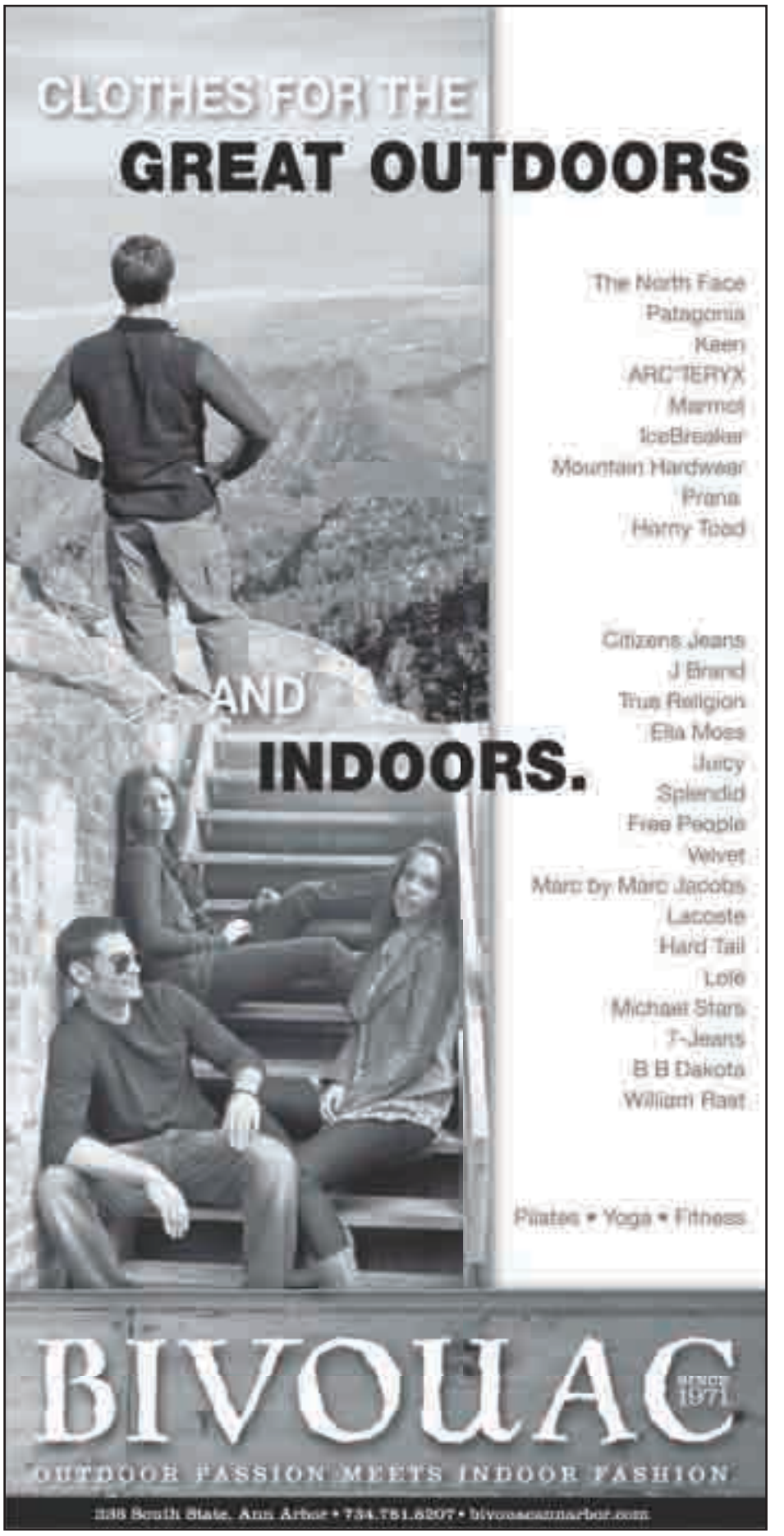
Eitan Rubinfeld on his bar mitzvah on June 27.
Morgan Burgard on her bat mitzvah, August 28
Zachary Colton on his bar mitzvah on August 29.
Eli Turner on his bar mitzvah on September 5.
Maris Reid on her bat mitzvah, September 5
Aviva Gordon on her bat mitzvah, September 5
Tomer Chen on his bar mitzvah on September 12.
Max Cornblath on his bar mitzvah, September 12
Adlai Reinhart on his bar mitzvah, September 12.
Natatie and Roger Palay on the engagement of their daughter, Sonya, to Andrew Ziaja.
Harriet and Gary Charson on the birth of their grandson, Maxwell Frances Tunk, to daughter Rachel and Joe Tunk, in Chicago, June 2.
Eileen and Ted Thacker on the birth of their grandson, Judah Benjamin Thacker, to son Matt and Erika Thacker, in Chicago, June 4.
Virginia Murphy and David Uhlmann on the engagement of their daughter, Megna Matthews, to Alec Anderson.
Ketl Freedman-Doan and Peter Doan on the engagement of their daughter, Rachel, to Alex Yerkey.
Deb and Bob Merion on the engagement of their daughter, Alison, to David Padron-Harris.
Ann Gordon on the birth of her grandson, Joseph Isaac Schultz, to daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Dustin, May 22.
Karen Soskin and Steve Haskin on the engagement of their son, Eric, to Miran Seo.
Karen Shill on the birth of her granddaughter, Eliana Bracha Sholem, daughter of Jonathan and Leah Sholem.
Mark Bernstein and Rachel Bendit on the birth of their son, Bendit (Ben) Nelson Bernstein. Ilana and Ari Gafni on the birth of their granddaughter, Aya, daughter of Osnat and Greg Pappas.
Michael and Rennie Roth on the birth of their grandson, Carl Lovitz, son of Anne and Michael Lovitz.

Condolences

Heather Dombey on the death of her father, Solomon Malach.
Rachel Fertig on the death of her father, Lance Fertig.
Ellen Taylor on the death of her father, George Barahal.
Naomi Braun on the death of her father, Henry Lieberman, May 14.
Steve Kronick on the death of his mother, Mrilyn Kronick, May 18.
Doug Quint on the death of his father, George Quint, June 13.
Susan Guralnick on the death of her mother, Barbara Greenspan, June 15.
Daniel Walsh on the death of his wife, Lenore Kaplan Walsh, July 24.
Aviva Dorfman on the death of her mother, Adina Dorfman, July 26.

Advertisers

Amadeus Cafe/ Patisserie....3
Ann Arbor Public Schools....31
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah....27
Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra....33
Ayse's Cafe....3
Bank of Ann Arbor....20
Barry Bagels....19
Beth Israel Congregation....23
Bivouac....35
Center for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery....21
Chelsea Flowers....5
Elite Kosher Catering....12
Fawzi's Westgate Auto Repair....25
Frankel Center....7
Gold Bond Cleaners....2
Cantor Samuel Greenbaum; mohel....35
Haifa Falafel....19
Hebrew Day School....32
Hiller's Market....36
Homegrown Festival....14
iSoldIt....3
Jewish Community Center....6, 23
Jewish Cultural Society....20
Jewish Family Services....27
Jewish Federation....7
Joe Cornell Entertainment....17
Keshet....17
Lake Forest Golf Club....24
Margolis Nursery....14
Merkel Carpet One....17
Michigan Theater....33
Modern Mechanical....35
People's Food Co-op....5
Dennis Platte Graphic Design....2
Polo Fields Golf & Country Club....13
Michal Porath; Edward Surovell Realtors....24
Probility P.T....5
Quality Kosher Catering....12
Sahara Market....19
Christopher Sevick, PLC....34
Simply Scrumptious....19
Summers-Knoll School....14
Temple Beth Emeth....6
University Musical Society....34
Village Apothecary....3
Williamston Theatre....34
Woman Safe Health....20
Yoo Hoo, Mrs Goldberg....2



Rosh Hashanah 5770

Hiller's Is Proud To Feature
Many Fine Foods From Israel

www.hillers.com

Hiller's

L'SHANA TOVA TIKATEIVU

PRICES GOOD THRU SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

MICHIGAN MADE - FINE, MEDIUM, BROAD, XWIDE
GREENFIELD'S EGG NOODLES 10/$10

ASSORTED 8.8-OZ
OSEM'S POUND CAKE AVAILABLE

MADE IN ISRAEL

- **MISPACHA CHOCOLATE CHIPS 10-OZ $2.49**
- **MISPACHA HONEY BEAR 12-OZ 2/$5**
- **ROKEACH MEMORIAL GLASS TUMBLERS 10/$7**

HOLIDAY PLANNING WITH MANISCHEWITZ

10-OZ BOX ASSORTED VARIETIES
MANISCHEWITZ MATZOS 2/$5

24-OZ JAR WHITEFISH AND PIKE OR
MANISCHEWITZ ALL WHITEFISH $5.99

4.5 TO 5-OZ BOX MATZO BALL & SOUP OR
MANISCHEWITZ MATZO BALL MIX
YOUR CHOICE **$1.99**

32-OZ CARTON NEW MANISCHEWITZ CHICKEN BROTH 2/$4

16-OZ YOUR CHOICE
MANISCHEWITZ MATZO MEAL OR FARFEL $2.88

64-OZ PURE 100%
MANISCHEWITZ GRAPE JUICE 2/$7

FROZEN & DAIRY SPECIALS

CHEESE - CHERRY - BLUEBERRY - APPLE
GOLDEN BLINTZES 6-COUNT 2/$5

DON HERMANN NEW DILL PICKLES 32-OZ $2.88

MIGDAL AMERICAN SLICES 8-OZ $2.99

BREDE HORSERADISH $1.39
8-OZ JAR RED OR WHITE

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY DINNER WE CARRY TRADITIONAL PRODUCE FAVORITES SUCH AS... HORSERADISH ROOT, CELLO PARSNIPS, PARSLEY ROOT, DILL & MORE

EMPIRE KOSHER FRESH OR FROZEN TURKEYS 10 TO 18-LB AVERAGE
Order Early To Insure Desired Size For The Holiday

IN OUR KOSHER FROZEN MEAT COUNTER
EMPIRE FROZEN KOSHER TURKEY BREAST $3.99 PER POUND

KOSHER WINES AT HILLER'S

750-ML ASSORTED
MANISCHEWITZ CREAMS AND TRADITIONALS $3.79

BIG 1.5 ASSORTED
$7.49

RASHI MOSCATO d'ASTI
750-ML **$9.99**

BEN AMI
CHARDONNAY, MERLOT OR CABERNET SAUVIGNON
750-ML **$9.99**

SHOP EARLY WHILE SUPPLIES LAST! - NO RAIN CHECKS -
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES - NO SALES TO DEALERS

LOCATED AT U.S. 23 & WASHTENAW - ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN (IN THE ARBORLAND MALL)